

THE CHART

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FISCAL YEAR '97

Board of Regents' delay causing financial aid crunch

Department awaits student fee numbers

By RYAN BRONSON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Students who hate to wait in financial aid lines might not be too happy when August rolls around.

Missouri Southern's Board of Regents plans to set student fees at its May 17 meeting, but Jim Gilbert, director of financial aid, said he would like the fees to be set much sooner.

"We have not made any financial

awards to date," Gilbert said. "Before we can process any student aid packages, student fees have to be set."

According to Gilbert, the financial aid office had approximately 2,500 applications processed at this time last year after the Board set student fees at its Feb. 18, 1995, meeting. The delay by the Board of Regents this year has closed the window for processing applications from five months to less than three months, he said.

"We have been notifying students in writing that there will probably be some delays," Gilbert said.

College President Julio Leon said the Board has delayed setting the

fees because the number of student applications has decreased by more than 240 from a year ago.

"The setting of fees in the past has been done as late as June," Leon said. "Last year, we had a very strong indication that enrollment was going to increase."

"It is much easier to budget when you are optimistic."

Leon added that there is a definite possibility student fees will increase because of the expected decrease in enrollment. He said the Board would have a tough time deciding what to set the fees at without having a strong estimate of student enrollment.

Dr. Glenn Dolence, vice presi-

dent for student services, has been the middleman between the Board of Regents and the financial aid office. Dolence said the delay will take its toll on the office.

"It's going to put us a little behind," he said. "I hope the students understand that it's not the people in financial aid. They work all summer, eight hours a day, trying to process paperwork."

Dolence also said he hopes students take the responsibility of returning the necessary information so the financial aid office can process the paperwork as efficiently as possible.

According to Gilbert, Dolence has been talking with Dr. John

Tiede, senior vice president.

"I've certainly asked to get some figure," Dolence said, "but they're not available. We can't put the packages together without the fees."

"To my knowledge, [the financial aid workers] are not waiting for anything else."

Tiede said in addition to predicting enrollment, the Board is watching the actions of the state legislature.

"[The date to set fees] varies from year to year," Tiede said. "We're waiting to see what the legislature is going to do."

According to Tiede, a reason for setting fees in February last year

was that the financial aid office was dealing with direct loans (loans issued by the federal government directly through the College) for the first time. Tiede also said he was told the financial aid office was delayed by the federal government as well as the College.

"They wouldn't have been able to process anything until last month anyway," he said.

Dolence said he hopes the College will move back its deadline for student fees in order to accommodate students who haven't had a chance to get their aid packages processed.

"I'm sure they will work out some kind of arrangement," he said. □

AREA DISASTER

Twister tracks through Joplin

By RICK ROGERS
MANAGING EDITOR

The tornado that swept through South Range Line Sunday also disrupted the lives of several Missouri Southern students living in the Oxford Park II apartments.

Rob Sapko, a senior computer information science major and Oxford resident, said the winds began to pick up around 2 a.m. to the point that he alerted his roommates.

"All of a sudden lightning flashed and one of the transformers blew up in front of us and blew sparks everywhere," he said. "It looked just like fireworks."

Sapko said seconds later winds ripped above his apartment complex after lightning flashed behind the other buildings.

"I saw shingles, tree debris, and all sorts of stuff flying over toward Range Line," he said. "You could see it kind of tear along right through here. You could see things like transformers blowing and wires snapping."

Sapko said he thought he was in the

midst of a tornado, but after surveying the damage he was unsure just what he had experienced.

"I really expected the whole third floor [of the apartment complex] to get ripped off," he said. "But when I saw that the gas station (Conoco) on Range Line was completely floored, my reaction was that I had just witnessed something that was too close for comfort."

Jennifer McCarthy, a sophomore management major and Oxford resident, said an eerie silence along with continuous lightning prevailed just before the tornado hit. Then she heard the loud, rumbling sounds of the wind.

"It sounded just like a freight train," she said. "It didn't even register that it was a tornado, because I was so scared to death. The building was shaking, so my roommate Brandi and I came into [the living room] and waited for things to calm down."

McCarthy said just minutes after the

— Please turn to
TWISTER, page 2A



Scenes like this were common after a storm struck South Range Line Sunday morning.

It's officially a tornado

By RICK ROGERS
MANAGING EDITOR

What was once speculation is now fact: the storm that rolled through the South Range Line area at 2:45 a.m. Sunday was a tornado and not a straight-line wind, according to the National Weather Service.

Steve Runnels, a warning coordination meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Springfield, said based on sur-

veys conducted Tuesday afternoon, a short, narrow, weak tornado touched down just west of Range Line and lifted just east of the road.

"This was not your traditional, violent tornado that you see make the news," Runnels said. "It was a short-lived rotation that affected mainly elevated structures."

Runnels said the reflectivity structure on radar indicated wind was the most likely culprit of most of the wide-spread damage throughout southwest Missouri. □

Tornado takes heavy toll on businesses

■ Several Joplin businesses on the south side of Range Line were hit hard by the storm that left Joplin Citgo and Fastrip totally destroyed.



RYAN BRONSON/The Chart

APPOINTMENT

Wyman up for Regents position

By J.L. GRIFFIN
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Missouri Southern may have a new member of the Board of Regents next week, if state senators approve the gubernatorial appointment of Jane Wyman.

Wyman, a Carthage attorney, would fill Cynthia Schwab's seat, which expired in August 1995.

Wyman would be one of two women on the Board and only one of two regents who are graduates of Southern.

"My main concerns will be how the College is serving students in a practical manner," she said. "Academic quality is very important to me."

Gov. Mel Carnahan approved Wyman's appointment Wednesday, and the appointment was sent to the Senate committee on gubernatorial appointments. The Senate will hold a hearing next week, at which Wyman is expected to attend to meet with senators about the nomination.

Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca) is sponsoring Wyman's appointment. Singleton said he has been pulling for Wyman since the seat opened.

"I have continued to support [Wyman] over these months," he said. "I'm more than pleased with the appointment."

Singleton acknowledged the importance of Wyman's alumni status with the College, as well as her gender.

"It certainly balances out the Board being a female, a mother, and a graduate," he said.

Wyman also said the significance of her graduating from Southern will be an asset to the position.

"I think it's important because being an alumna gives you a different perspective on the school," said Wyman, a 1972 graduate.

However, she said there was nothing ground-breaking about being a female regent.

"I don't know that my profession or gender will make difference except it defines who I am," she said.

No one would comment on reasons for taking so long with the appointment except to say progress has been made.

"I've been working with the governor's staff picking a replacement," Singleton said. "It's [Carnahan's] call, and my privilege to support nominations from my district."

Singleton said he didn't foresee any problems with the appointment. He said historically, if the sponsor is from the district the appointment is from, there is usually never a problem.

Wyman's nomination is the second to Southern's Board of Regents this year. Earlier in the session, Julie Chapman was named student regent. □

DEPARTMENT EVALUATION

Nursing program passes accreditation with flying colors

By HEATHER DEMIER
CHART REPORTER

From April 23-26, Missouri Southern's nursing program underwent an extensive accreditation evaluation and passed with flying colors.

The department's initial accreditation by the National League for Nursing occurred in 1988. Based on the accreditation process, every eight years an application is submitted to the NLN to be reaccredited, said Dr. Barbara Box, director of nursing.

"We have opened ourselves up to peer review by colleagues of similar schools to review our report and our department, College, and students according to the criteria that NLN established for accreditation," Box said.

As early as 1993, the department began conversations about the accreditation process. Since that time, meetings became more structured and faculty were given specific assignments and responsibilities.

"It was an overall effort among the faculty, secretaries, and students to accomplish this task," Box said.

The two chairpersons were Dr. Barbara Jane Clancy from the University of Kansas Medical Center and Dr. Zaiga Kalnins, from Cardinal Stritch College, whose job was to evaluate the nursing program.

"The school has presented a large document that describes what they're about as far as the nursing program, and they have to state how they meet criteria," Clancy said. "We're here to validate and verify that what is in the report is actually happening."

Clancy and Kalnins visited several places on campus, including classrooms, clinical facilities, and the library. They also talked to students, faculty, administrators, and alumni of the program.

"It's really an opportunity for us to verify to the National League for Nursing just what our program is about," said Grace Ayton, assistant professor of nursing. "I think the biggest thing I've been proud of is that our students have just always been an excellent example of what we hoped them to be."

Students also visited with the evaluators, and some were a little nervous at first.

"We had an interview session with them, and we were really worried for a while—it was kind of nerve-racking for us," said Rebecca Adams, junior nursing major. "They

were very friendly. It was a real rewarding experience, and it benefited all of us because being accredited is vital for our profession."

"We felt very comfortable after we got to meet these people. There were really nice, very much like our own instructors, and it all went great," she said.

Gretchen Crown, junior nursing major, said the Southern instructors put "a lot of effort, thought, and hard work into this."

"The evaluators were impressed because there is a five-to-one [teacher-to-student] ratio on average in clinical study," she said.

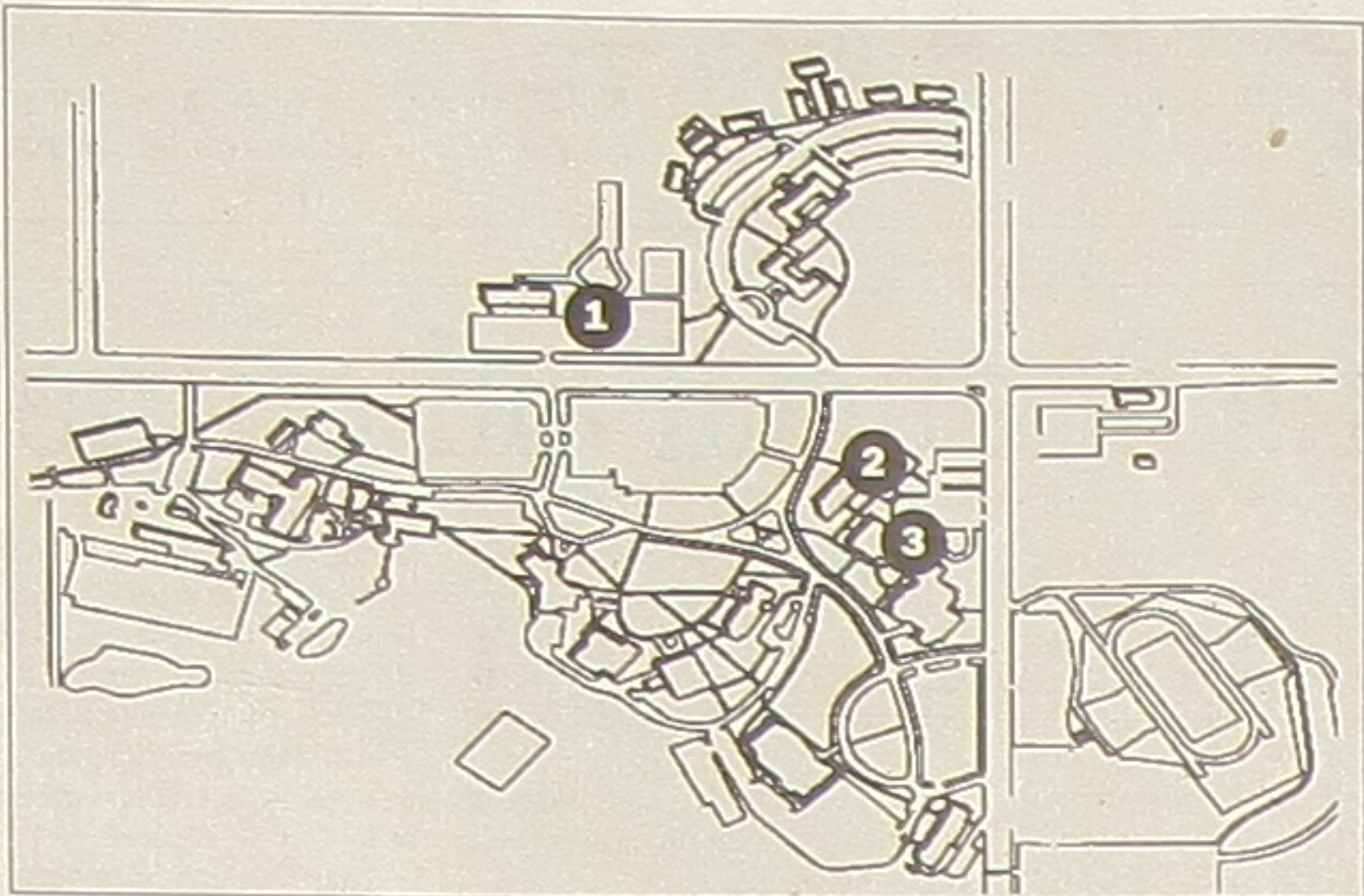
Crown also said her instructors are "very open to ideas and communication."

Overall, the nursing department met all the criteria and will be evaluated again in 2004. □

"I think the biggest thing I've been proud of is that our students have just always been an excellent example of what we hoped them to be."

Grace Ayton
Assistant professor of nursing

SECURITY REPORT



- 1 04/18/96 ANDERSON JUSTICE CENTER 8:55 a.m. Campus security was called to Room 125 of the Anderson Justice Center in reference to a student who had fainted. The student was sitting at the back of the room and had started feeling faint. He stood up and walked to the front of the room and collapsed. He was transported to Freeman Hospital.
- 2 04/23/96 WEBSTER HALL 4:50 p.m. Stephanie Goad, senior communications major, said she was starting down the stairwell from the third floor when she fell down the first set of six steps. She said she was carrying several items at the time and she missed the first step. Goad did not seek medical attention, but was complaining of pain in her left knee.
- 3 04/27/96 PHINNEY HALL 11:40 p.m. Campus security was called to Phinney Hall in reference to a student who had passed out. He arrived to find a conscious student on the floor with his feet propped up, and 911 had already been called. The Joplin Fire Department arrived shortly after and began to take vitals. JEMS transported the student to the hospital.

CAMPUS LIFE

Greek organizations unite

By CRAIG BEFFA
EDITORIAL EDITOR

Last week the two sororities and fraternities united together to celebrate Greek Week.

"This year the Greeks gathered together to give something back to the College," said Jan Crandall, Greek adviser.

"I am happy that they could get together this year."

This year all four groups had a picnic and stuffed envelopes for the Alumni Association from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

At the picnic they gave out prizes for

those students who had a high grade-point average.

"It was a good time to honor each other," Crandall said, "and show respect for other chapters."

Crandall says it is important for the Greeks to join together, even if only for one week.

"This year we had a great opportunity," said Christy Waggoner, freshman elementary education major.

"It got all of us together to meet people from other [Missouri Southern] Greek organizations that we did not know."

Waggoner said Greek life at Southern has been a pleasant experience.

"It is a lot more work than I expected," she said, "but it gets you more involved in your school. I know more about Southern than I did, and I get to travel to other schools and visit other Alpha Sigma Alpha sororities."

Crandall said last year for Greek Week they had a speaker who was HIV positive.

"I think all of the students had a great time interacting with other Greeks," she said.

"It is important to enjoy time with other chapters, not just their own."

Crandall says those interested in Greek life must have a certain GPA and be a full-time student. □

TWISTER: Storm inconveniences many students

From Page 1

winds ceased, water began to seep through the light fixtures in both bedrooms of her apartment.

"We didn't go back to bed because we had to man the drips," she said. "It got to the point where all the walls were just soaking wet, because there were so many of them."

Hours after the storm passed, McCarthy, who had lived in her apartment only three days, said she heard a loud "thump" and knew exactly what had happened.

"It was the ceilings of our bedrooms caving in," she said. "We didn't really care. We were just laughing at that point."

McCarthy, who had no injury or personal damage from the incident, said everyone in the apartment complexes has been cooperative.

"I feel very lucky that nothing happened to us and that it just happened to the apartment," she said. "When it was happening Sunday morning, a man downstairs would come up and check on us and make sure we were OK, along with the girl next door. We didn't have a radio or anything. So everybody was great."

Becki Brown, a senior communications major and Oxford resident, said she was out of town during the actual storm but was rudely surprised when she returned home at 8:30 Sunday morning.

"We hit the parking lot, and there was wood and debris everywhere. Food 4 Less trucks were evacuating people, and it was just a mess," Brown said.

"We were told to get everything out of the bedrooms and into the living room where it was dry, because our bedroom ceilings were caving in piece by piece."

Brown, who will graduate this month, said this incident puts a kink into her plans for her last two weeks of school.

"They are going to move us into another apartment," she said.

"It's just craziness. This close to the end of the semester makes this hell. Graduation is coming up, and I'm in the middle of moving now." □

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STUDENT SENATE

372 voters show for Senate elections

Student Senate's 1996-97 Officers

PRESIDENT VICE PRESIDENT



Grant Miller

Eden Aber

SECRETARY TREASURER



Sandy Fisk

Josh Phillips

RICK ROGERS/The Chart

Weedn passes the gavel; senators look to new term

By KIKI COFFMAN
STAFF WRITER

Good tidings, best wishes, and words of advice were given over barbecued burgers at the Biology Pond picnic during the Student Senate's last meeting of the semester Wednesday.

Senators joked about classes and declined to speak of "controversy" at the affair.

Two senators received the Outstanding Senator Award as a result of a tie.

"In this case we had two people who were excellent leaders," said John Weedn, Senate president.

"In a group of people like we had, it's hard to find just one."

Kim Jones, vice president, and Brian Gardner, sophomore senator, both accepted the honor, congratulating each other at the same time.

Weedn swore in newly-elected officers for next semester's Senate. Grant Miller will be president; Eden Aber, vice president; Sandy

Fisk, secretary; and Josh Phillips, treasurer. Elections this week drew 372 voters.

The new president wasn't official, however, until the former executive senator literally "passed the gavel" to him.

Senator Lydia Meadows viewed Weedn's move as uncharacteristic.

"Watch out, Weedn; you're yielding your power!" she said.

Weedn quickly recognized his "freedom."

"I won't comment," he said. "There's a new guy to pick on."

Already Miller is answering senators' questions about what to expect in the new semester.

"All the good things and more," he said.

Miller was satisfied, and at the same time, surprised by the election results. He owned up to a little fatalism.

"It (the election) could have gone either way," he said. "Either one of us could have won."

The other newly-elected executive officers showed interest in their new offices as well.

"It'll be great!" Phillips said. "I didn't know I had won at first. I can't wait."

Aber acknowledged her quick advancement over a year's involvement with the Senate, while Fisk noted that her "race" was close.

As the music blared, a new speaker rose to address the conference.

Dr. Glenn Dolence, vice president for student services, offered words of advice to the senators.

"The squeaky wheel gets the grease as they say, so keep squeaking," he said.

"I guess the most important thing to tell you is that the student life center will be opening up in August."

Dolence commended the senators in "having done a great job representing the students of Missouri Southern."

Senators concluded the official nature of the meeting by diverging into groups playing volleyball, and a few stragglers left to converse.

Senator Jason Talley summed up the semester.

"We didn't get enough accomplished," he said.

"The best thing was the senators' willingness in wanting to help the students on campus. We did get a lot of things done, but you always wish you could do more."

Talley looked to the next semester for more changes to occur.

"We'll do it next time," he said. "You just have to wait." □

HEALTH INSPECTION

Cafeteria's 2nd tour scores 90

By RONNA SPARKS
STAFF WRITER

A recent surprise health board inspection of Missouri Southern's cafeteria gave the College the opportunity to prove its ability to respond quickly.

The cafeteria received a failing rating due to several maintenance problems. In this instance, businesses are given 10 days to correct the problems, but Southern took just one.

"They had a very fast turnaround," said Dan Pekarek, Joplin community health director. "Most places, we wait 10 days, but they called us back that day and scheduled an appointment for the next day and brought their score up to a 90, which was a fast turnaround."

An establishment must receive a score of 80 to be considered passing.

On April 22, Southern's cafeteria received a 66, but the deducted points were related to an equipment failure, not a personnel issue, Pekarek said.

"Mostly all of the major point-related items that were debited were a maintenance issue," he said.

Among the debits were a refrigerator that had malfunctioned and a leak in the dishwasher. Both were repaired that day.

Doug Carnahan, dean of students, said AmeriServe food service had to work with the College's physical plant to correct the problem.

"Actually, we're real pleased with the scores we get time and time again," Carnahan said. "As far as cleanliness, the health department has told us continually that we're one of the cleanest." □

3 Musketeers



Becky Harshaw, dental hygiene major; Joe Eldred, criminal justice major; and Edan Ogden, nursing major; anticipate Missouri Southern's commencement ceremonies threefold.

JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Siblings to graduate together on May 18

By RONNA SPARKS
STAFF WRITER

For the families of college students, they sometimes anticipate graduation as much as the students themselves.

With the bustle of announcements, ceremonies, and other events associated with the end of a college career, it's a pretty hectic time, but for three Missouri Southern students, their families' anticipation triples.

Joe Eldred, Rebecca Harshaw, and Edan Ogden are brother and sisters who will graduate together on May 18.

"Whenever we see each other, we have the days counted down," said Eldred, a criminal justice major.

Three siblings graduating at the same time seems to be a rare occurrence, but the fact that there is an 12-year age difference between Eldred and Harshaw, who are 22-year-old twins, and Ogden seems even more unusual.

Ogden, 34, entered college after she grad-

uated from high school but then quit to get married and raise a family. When Eldred and Harshaw entered college, Ogden decided she wanted to further her education and pursue her desire for a career.

"When they came back, it gave me more of a want to come back," said Ogden, a nursing major.

Ogden has four children and Harshaw has one. They both attribute their ability to attend Southern to each other's willingness to babysit the other's children.

They say they have found a common bond due to their lives as students.

"The college experience has drawn us together in that we're all experiencing the same frustrations and experiences," Eldred said.

With all three in the same family, they find it easier to exchange stories about happenings with instructors and peers, so their families share many of their experiences.

"At our family dinners I'm sure everyone gets tired of hearing about everything we're doing in school," Ogden said.

Although their conversations often center on school with graduation on the horizon, they have found their conversations turn to a different focus.

"Of course, right now the big discussion is where each one of us is going to work," said Harshaw, a dental hygiene major.

"That was the big discussion at Easter." Having two other siblings at school has made attendance a bit more interesting, especially in classes they shared.

"We didn't even know we were in the same class until Dr. [Conrad] Gubera (professor of sociology) called roll," Harshaw said.

"When he got to Joe, that's when I started looking around."

"She was sitting right in front of me," Eldred said. "I didn't even see her when I walked in."

Attending college together hasn't only drawn them together as peers, it has eliminated some of the age barriers.

"I think it's made me a little younger," Ogden said. □

STUDENT LIFE CENTER

Maintenance to have no trouble meeting August deadline

Planning committee already deciding decorations, colors

By GENIE UNDERNEHR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

If all goes as planned, the College's new student life center will be ready for occupation by its Aug. 1 deadline.

The physical plant crew has made much progress in the last few weeks toward the completion of the building. Bob Beeler, director of the physical plant, said they

have finished installing the initial heating and air conditioning, the electrical conduits are in place, all of the stud walls are in place, and roughly half of the drywall has been put up.

"It's taking shape," Beeler said. "You can really start to tell what it will look like. Things have gone smoothly lately, and I still feel confident we can meet our deadline."

Deb Gipson, women's residence hall director, has taken part in reg-



Gipson

ular planning meetings throughout the course of construction. Right now, the committee has been choosing and ordering the inside furnishings and decorations.

"Basically, we've been able to make decisions on floor coverings and colors," Gipson said. "We're getting the specs on what types of equipment we want for the weight-training room and the laundry room. We're picking carpet colors, counter top covers, and deciding what rooms we want tiled and carpeted."

"It's just the nuts and bolts right now," she said.

Gipson said the committee has chosen a dark green carpet with a

rust and gray pattern, and the walls will be off-white with tan window frames. They have not chosen furniture upholstery colors yet.

Half of the building will feature an aerobics room, a laundry room, and a weight room. Gipson said all the walls are completed up to the last coat of paint, which will go on as soon as the ceilings are up.

"I'm very excited," she said. "There's still a lot to finish, but everyone seems real committed and is doing a wonderful job. We're making good progress, and we've got a real good shot at our anticipated opening date."

Gipson said the student life center is a facility that will benefit the

College tremendously.

"This is a place we have needed for a long time for our student body," she said. "It will be used more than our wildest dreams. It's going to be a tremendous asset, and it will do a lot for the student life in general."

"I can't wait," she said.

Another major construction project is scheduled for Reynolds Hall, and work will begin as soon as commencement is Beeler said the Reynolds Hall renovations have the same August deadline as the student life center.

"It's going to be a nail biter this summer for the physical plant," he said. □

SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

Intercession courses, fees set for summer session

Persons can earn college credit by taking courses offered during a 10-day Intercession at Missouri Southern. Credit courses are being offered in art, communications, criminal justice, English, physical education, music, nursing, and political science.

One-hour credit courses meet 90 minutes each day; two-hour classes meet three hours each day; and three-hour courses meet four hours and 10 minutes each day during the Intercession. Cost is \$66.50 per credit hour for Missouri residents and \$133 per credit hour for non-residents. Additional fees are included in some of the courses that involve travel.

Classes being offered include Geriatric Nursing, RAKU Workshop, Art Education, The Works of J.R.R. Tolkien, Physical Education for the Elementary School, Learn to Read Music, The Fundamentals of Film Appreciation, Water Policy on the Missouri and Arkansas Rivers, and Seminar in Corrections. Enrollment is under way for courses offered during the Intercession between spring and summer semesters, Monday, May 20 through Friday, May 31. For more information, persons may call 625-9389 or 1-800-606-MSSC. □

Justice Center to host explosion seminar

The criminal justice program at Missouri Southern is joining forces with the Missouri Division of Fire Safety to present two one-day seminars on investigating fires and explosions.

A bomb technician with the Oklahoma City Police Department and a fire investigator from the Oklahoma City Fire Department will present the seminars from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday in Matthews Hall auditorium.

Presenters include Lt. Mike Hutchcroft, a 14-year veteran of the Oklahoma City Police Department who was involved in the investigation of the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City; and Maj. David E. Dallas, a 26-year veteran of the Oklahoma City Fire Department.

The seminar will cover natural fires and explosions caused by gaseous fuels or vapor-producing liquids, manufactured incendiary devices, post-bombing investigations, and other aspects.

Cost of the seminar is \$60. Registration opens at 8 a.m. each day. For additional information or to register, persons may contact 625-9328. □

Enhancement grant benefits Child Center

This has been a busy semester for Missouri Southern's Child Development Center.

Lenora Wiley, the center's coordinator, and three teachers recently received an enhancement grant from the Department of Health, part of which was used for staff development. With the grant, they were able to visit other early childhood programs. The staff went in teams of twos.

The first team went to the Berkley Center at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and the Raintree Montessori in Lawrence, Kan.

The second team went to the Oklahoma State University lab school and Halland Hall in Tulsa.

"The opportunity to go and visit other early childhood programs lets you reflect on your own," Wiley said.

Dana Forsythe, a teacher at the center, just finished a lesson on transportation.

She had a fire truck come to the center, and Sittion Motor Lines brought a truck for the children to see.

A few of the places she would like to take her class are the Biology Pond, the theatre department, and the Mansion. □

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Thinking back about yesterday

After five long years of school, the end is here, finally. I could take the time here to thank all my instructors, employees, and friends for their support, but that would take a long, long time, and I don't have the space for it.

As I think back to what I was before I came to Missouri Southern, I remember one occurrence which led me here.



Michael Davison
Arts Editor

I was the opening manager of an area fast-food restaurant. The day cook was Stephanie, a hard worker who had been with the company longer than I had but who was just starting to cook. Due to some bad luck

and a misunderstanding, things did not go well that particular morning, and some of the food was not going to be ready by the time we opened.

I went back to help, but the kitchen was a complete mess.

Things seemed to be looking up when I got a phone call from the manager. She said a vice president was in town and was coming to our store for lunch. She would be in as soon as she could. She asked me to get the place spic-and-span, especially the kitchen.

Back to the kitchen I went, and with an extra dose of willpower and elbow grease, we got that kitchen looking pretty good. When the manager came in at 11:30 that morning, she told me to send Stephanie home when the vice president got there, and I would be replacing her in the kitchen.

That morning opened my eyes to what that place was really about: overworked, underpaid low-skilled workers slaving to do the best they can so the under-worked, overpaid manager can receive her big, fat bonus check.

This is the same manager who parks one of her various automobiles in one of the handicapped spots after 9 p.m. I guess she believes the handicapped need to be home in bed by that time.

I don't know how many times I heard the words, "When they have worked here as long as I have..." prefacing her rationalization of why she is sitting on her experience in the office instead of out in the store, working.

I realized this is not what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. I did not want to be doing something like this for the rest of my life, dealing with people who are out only to make things appear to be going well, when in fact things are in disarray.

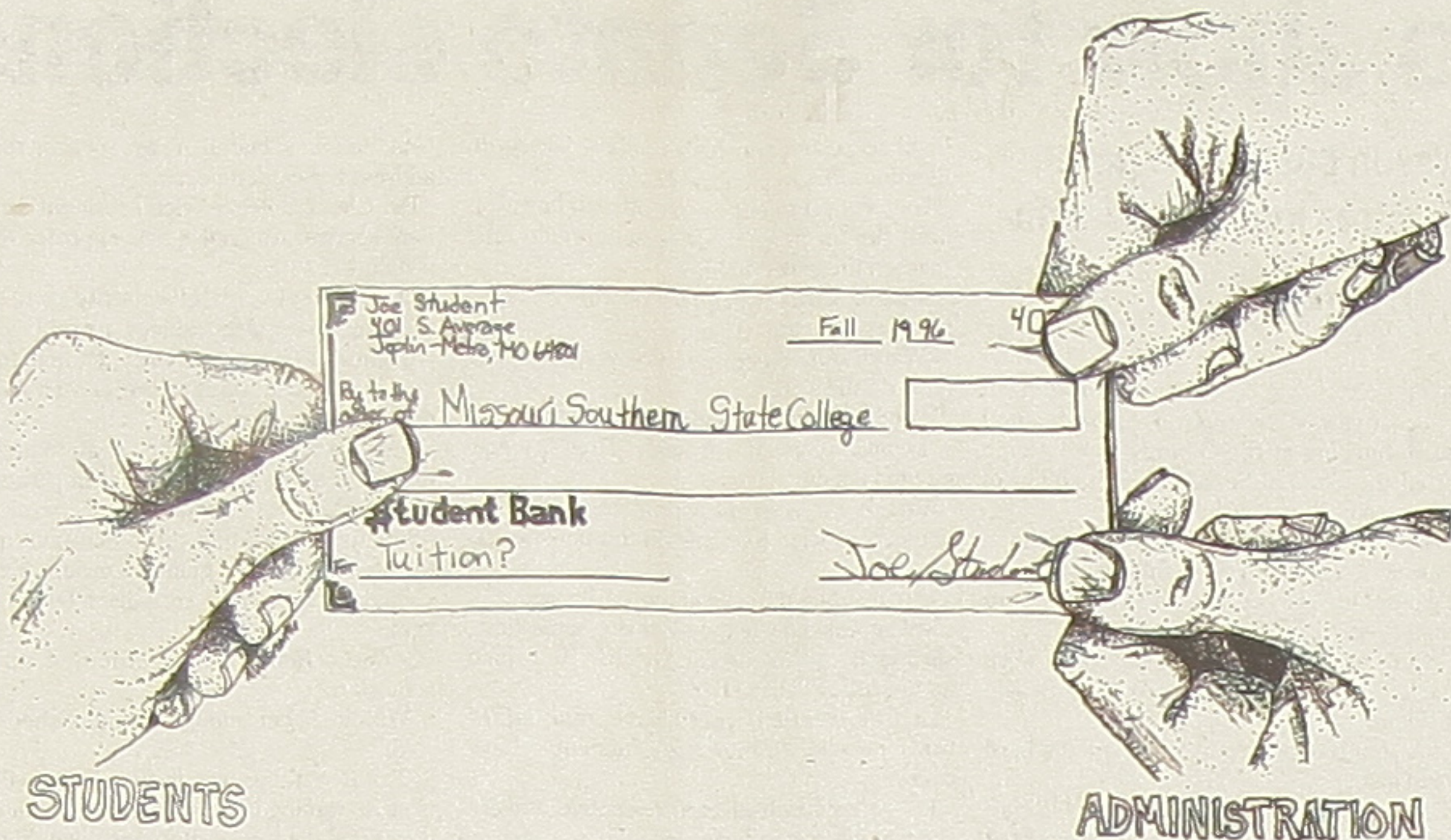
I knew I was intelligent enough to make something of myself. I was actually ashamed to be seen working there, and when people did see me there, they would tell me to go to school.

At this same time, I was dating this wonderful, smart, beautiful girl who had a scholarship to Southern. So when an old friend of mine threatened to break my legs if I didn't go to school, I decided it was time to change and go back to school.

So on a warm Thursday in August 1991, I went through the hell of open enrollment.

I took a few classes, worked, took care of things at home, and found myself having a good time and doing well. Now I am graduating and finally leaving that restaurant after working there seven years.

Stephanie is still there, getting her 15-cent raise a year and working as best she can. That's all she really knows how to do. Doing whatever she is asked, no matter what it is. □



STUDENTS

ADMINISTRATION

OUR EDITORIAL

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of The Chart editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

Board should provide answers

If you are one of the students waiting in line to get your financial aid processed come August, don't blame the financial aid office.

Because the Board of Regents has yet to set student fees for 1996-97, the financial aid office has been forced to issue delay statements to those students who have turned in their financial aid applications. Until fees are set, the financial aid office can't process any student aid.

Last year, the Board of Regents set College fees on Feb. 18, and by the end of the semester, the financial aid office had processed approximately 2,500 student packages—more than half of the total.

As it stands now, the financial aid office has processed ZERO applications.

The Board should show some consistency when dealing with finances. Last year, it decided on fees earlier than it ever had in the past, and this year it will most likely be May 17, three months later than last year. In the past, the Board has waited until early June before setting fees.

The financial aid office may have the toughest job on campus. With one miscalculation, the office would have to reprocess all of the packages—they must be accurate. So why cram five months worth of work into a two-and-a-half month period? The College is begging for a mistake by tying the financial aid office's hands.

In addition to the long lines that are more than likely

unavoidable in August and early September, College officials such as Dr. Glenn Dolence, vice president for student services, are recommending that the College set back its deadline for receiving student fees. Assuming students are as responsible for their packages as past experience has shown, this step would be a smart one. But is it necessary?

Some College officials claim that the Board is keeping tabs on the actions of the state legislature before making a decision, and others say the Board wants to get a better idea about enrollment for 1996-97.

Admittedly, College officials have said that the legislature rarely makes drastic changes in the higher education budget from the governor's recommendation, which is released in January.

Rep. Gary Burton (R-Joplin) said he hasn't heard of any changes in the higher education budget, and added that he doesn't expect any changes to occur before the budget reaches the governor's desk.

In conclusion, the College's budget is a blueprint that is not set in stone. It is perfectly safe to set the fees earlier in the semester, as the College proved last year. Why cause additional problems by waiting until May to set student fees? If the fees are set a little low in comparison to enrollment, the College can make adjustments in fees the following spring.

The Board of Regents should provide answers for the College, not problems. □

What an incredible school year

To begin with, this is the last issue of *The Chart* for the 1995-96 school year and it has been a big year for Missouri Southern.

The emphasis on international education soon should receive its first installment from the taxpayers—some of whom overwhelmingly voted against a new civic center for the College and city.

The physical plant made some strides fixing the giant sinkhole this spring.

Also, the new student life center, which lied next to the residence halls, is scheduled for completion when classes resume in the fall.

In sports, no one can forget the incredible comeback of Lady Lions' head basketball coach Carrie Kaifes.

After a near-fatal car accident in September, Kaifes returned to lead the Lady Lions to the MIAA post-season

championship and a berth in the regional tournament.

Pittsburg State's football team held off a stingy Lion football squad, winning the 10th annual Miner Bowl 15-14. Just wait until next year.

And we can't forget the Lady Lion volleyball team, which beat Central Missouri State's for the first time ever. We hope Debbie Traywick and her spikers can make those victories a habit.

The Chart would like to wish all the retiring faculty and graduating students luck in their future endeavors. One student in particular, Michael Davison, arts and entertainment editor for *The Chart*, holds a special place in our hearts.

Thanks, Mike. We'll catch you at the *Webb City Sentinel*.

Have a great summer!

YOUR LETTERS

The Chart welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to The Chart office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via E-mail. Our E-mail address: TheChart@aol.com. Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

Music as challenging, rewarding as art

To all musicians and music majors. I would like to clear up a quote that appeared in *The Chart* on April 25. I was quoted as saying I thought "play-

ing a piece of music" was easy, but what I really said was that being in art involves more than just taking tests, that like music it involves performing, because you create a piece of work.

I think music is every bit as challenging and rewarding as art.

Stacy Schoen
Senior art major

IN PERSPECTIVE

'I have been at Southern since dirt'

It has been a pleasure to share my academic career with four Missouri Southern presidents, four academic vice presidents, four school of education deans, and four department heads in psychology. Perhaps the "4-4-4" would be a good "Pick Three" play in Missouri Lotto.

The fact is, I have worked with all the presidents and "all the Presidents' men" (sounds like a great book title but "men" is neither politically correct nor accurate). My tenure began when our campus acreage was composed of a home, several barns, and a herd of dairy cattle. Somehow this entitles me to tell friends and acquaintances that, "I have been at Southern since dirt."

There has been much opportunity for memory decay in 30 years but as I recall, I'm and I had a good chuckle when *The Joplin Globe* published an article about purchasing property as a site for a new community college campus. Local business leaders and President Billingsly announced their intent to raise \$350,000 to buy the plot.

I was convinced these visionaries needed more than money, they desperately needed psychiatric care. "Not in my lifetime will this community cough up \$350,000 to purchase a dairy farm to convert into a college campus! The very idea is absurd!" I'm convinced me to demonstrate my loyalty to the cause by pledging \$5 a month for three months.

In three weeks the pledges had reached \$400,000 and the land was purchased in just over three months. There were some large contributions (as much as \$100,000), but most of the money came from an army of modest investors. Does that sound like town and gown cooperation or what? Unfortunately, 30 years later "Proposition J" failed to excite the same caliber of enthusiasm.

However, in general, students, staff, and faculty have enjoyed a large measure of community support.

The 1963 version of our current collegiate community was fondly known as the "Joco" or Joplin Junior College. There were 38 certified faculty, and students from "Adams" to "Zumwalt" numbered 527. With the exception of Duane Hunt and Harrison Kash, all of the faculty pictured in the 1964 *Crossroads* are now retired. Some just stopped teaching, and others have retired in a more permanent sense.

A table in the cafeteria had a sign reading "reserved for faculty." Most of the faculty satisfied their need for midday sustenance at the sacred table, but it was here that a faculty family was unintentionally created. It was this noon activity that promoted dialog ranging from Babe Ruth to Beethoven, Hemingway to Hitler, and Skinner to Stalin. It was here that a young, naive psychologist learned to listen to the masters and emulate tried and true teaching techniques. I am so proud to have my picture in the *Crossroads* alongside the likes of Harry Gockel, Martha McCormick, Cleotis Headlee, Lloyd Dryer, Dorothy

— Please turn to JUNKINS, Page 11A

STUDENT TEACHING

Hettinger dreams of inner-city teaching

By ALICE CARLSON
STAFF WRITER

Teaching children in an inner-city situation may seem like an impossible job to many, but to Scott Hettinger, senior secondary social science and history education major, it will be a dream come true.

Two summers ago, Hettinger worked in the inner-city New York with youth at a health kitchen.

"That experience led me to believe that I could make a difference in their lives," he said.

Hettinger student teaches an American history class to eighth graders at Joplin Junior High School. He spends five hours a day teaching and has a break for lunch and a one-hour planning period. Hettinger has been student teaching since March 1 and will continue through May 17. He graduates the next day.

"It is easier than I expected," Hettinger said, "tremendously so. I thought it

would be hard to adjust to, but it hasn't been. It has been a good experience, and I think I am a pretty good teacher."

"The students were excited to have Scott come," said Charlene Hemphill, his cooperating teacher at Joplin Junior High School, "and they have reacted excellently to him."

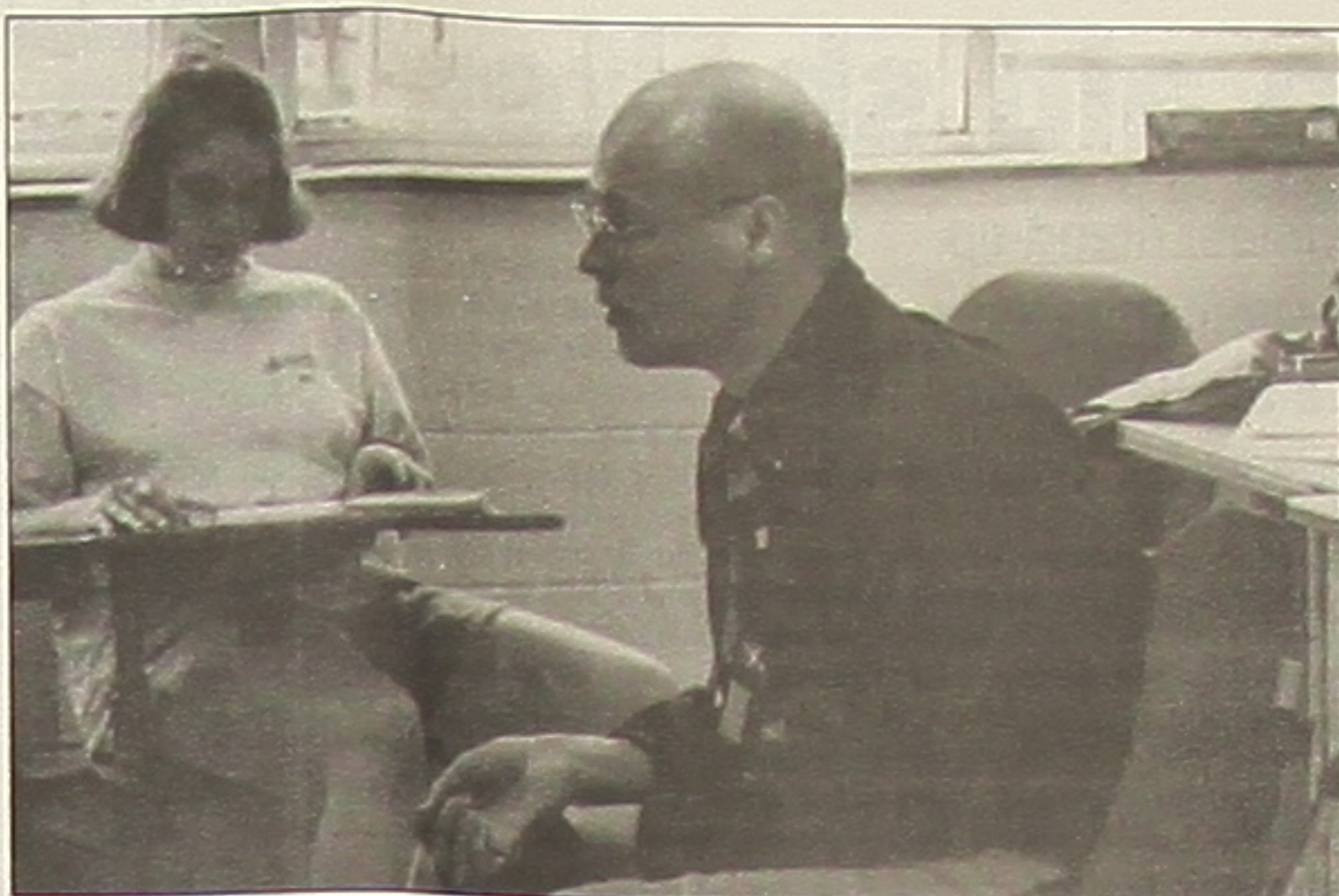
"A lot of the students already knew him because he has given motivational talks at the middle school. They were excited to have him come teach."

Hettinger, who is making his dream of being an inner-city teacher come true, believe people can accomplish anything they want; the only thing needed is ambition.

"Set goals that are high and believe in yourself," he said.

"Do what you can to reach your goals. If you have a stumbling block, step over it."

Hettinger has been involved in many organizations, including Student Senate, Omicron Delta Kappa, the Hammons Mentor Program, and Koinonia. □



Shelly Sadler (left) is one of the many students in Scott Hettinger's eighth grade history class at Joplin Junior High School. Hettinger said teaching is not as hard as he expected.

BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Accounting 201, 202 take new direction, build teams

By LESLIE ROBERTS
EDUCATION EDITOR

What began as a search for a new textbook for Accounting 201 and 202 classes took on "a life of its own," according to Dr. Steve Roark, associate professor of business.

After spending more than nine months researching textbooks, going to other universities, and inviting expert guest speakers to Missouri Southern, Roark and his partner, William Paapanen, professor of business, feel confident in recommending new textbooks, and with those textbooks, a new approach to teaching the classes.

"We're going to use the *Theme 1* book by Dr. Karen Pinkus for the first six or seven weeks of the fall semester," Roark said. "That will give the students a better foundation in

the terminology used and bring them all up to a more consistent level of information."

The use of the Pinkus textbook, Roark said, is to develop a structure of information from which to build.

"We need to establish a framework before we try to teach the details of accounting," he said. "Dr. Pinkus uses the analogy of a jigsaw puzzle—you build the frame first and then you fill in the interior."

After the first six weeks, the classes will move on to the *Financial Accounting* textbook.

"This book uses a different company as an example for each of the 14 chapters," Roark said. "It's a rigorous book, but it covers sophisticated topics very well."

Paapanen and Roark expect to complete eight of the 14 chapters in the remaining 10 weeks of the first semester, in addition to

starting an annual report workbook.

"Each student will be assigned a real company to research," Roark said. "This workbook takes you through step by step how to learn about a company through their public financial reports. We expect to be about halfway through the workbook by the end of the first semester."

Roark expects the *Financial Accounting* text and the workbook will be finished by the tenth week of the second semester.

"That leaves the last six weeks to explore management accounting topics," Roark said. "We'll be studying cost terminology, break-even analyses, and a section on budgeting."

According to Roark, accounting had been taught with a preparer focus in the past. The new textbooks emphasize a user approach, so students know what to do with the answers at which they've arrived. The classes will be

taught differently, also. Instead of the more traditional lecture format, students will be working in teams up to 60 percent of the time. Because of this, a dedicated classroom is required.

"The room will be carpeted to absorb some of the noise generated by the groups," Paapanen said. "There will also be what is called task chairs, chairs that roll around easily to facilitate group work."

Roark and Paapanen are also investigating a new, ergonomic table design that can be reconfigured depending on the size of the group.

"It is difficult to accomplish team building in a traditional classroom," Roark said. "The new classroom will facilitate it. When a student walks into this classroom on the first day of class, it's not going to look like any other classroom they've ever been in." □

STUDENT TEACHING

Foremans finding their true path after straying

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD
STAFF WRITER

After pursuing other career paths, Stephen and Athena Foreman finally feel confident that they are on the right track. Both husband and wife will graduate with bachelor of science degrees in music education this month.

In spite of their love for music and interest in teaching, both Stephen and Athena first pursued business careers. Athena earned a bachelor's degree in marketing and management, and Stephen has business and psychology minors.

"I was going to get a real job and make real money," Stephen said.

But a lack of personal satisfaction led them into teaching.

"I've always wanted to teach," Stephen said. "When I was a kid, I used to line up my stuffed animals and play school."

This semester, their resolve has been tested by the fire of student teaching. Stephen is teaching in Aurora and Athena in Mount Vernon. The transition from student to teacher was hardest for Athena.

"On my third day, I had three classes that were completely handed over to me," she said. "I thought I was just going to crash and burn."

Fortunately, things got better. She said she spent a lot of time talking to the principal and her cooperating teacher, Trudy Tunnell, about some especially difficult students.

"The discipline problems didn't really surprise me, but their attitudes shocked me more than anything," she said. "They didn't care about their grades, it was no big deal if you called their parents, and detention was just a part of the day for some."

Even with firm discipline, she realized that she was spending all of her time on six unruly students, so she began a reward system to encourage the better students. She also used a variety of techniques

“When I was a kid, I used to line up my stuffed animals and play school.”

Stephen Foreman
Student teacher

geared to different learning styles.

"I made worksheets that had a lot of opinion questions, and I was shocked by their answers," she said. "Even some of the kids who acted horrible in class would have really good answers."

After a rough start, Athena found herself feeling more comfortable with the students as they began to respond to her. After five weeks with seventh- to 12th-grade students, she started all over with elementary students.

Stephen's first teaching experience has been much less traumatic. He is working with students in grades six through 12.

"I was worried about handling the discipline problems," he said, "but I'm surprised at how quickly I've grown to where it doesn't bother me, even with a 19-year-old who stands taller than me. You have to let them know you're not intimidated by them and stand your ground."

Stephen and Athena both have high praise for the education department.

"[Athena] will make a heckuva teacher some day," said Tunnell, music instructor for Mount Vernon schools. "She has all the skills and is very talented and organized. She's the kind of person who wants to do everything well. [Stephen] is a very creative and innovative teacher," said Sharon Bean, music instructor for Aurora schools. □

HIGHER EDUCATION BRIEFS

SEMO Regents name new college president

The Southeast Missouri State University Board of Regents named a new president Tuesday during an executive session of the board.

Dr. Dale F. Nitzschke will replace Dr. Bill Atchley, who is currently serving as interim president. Atchley replaced Dr. Kala Stroup, who resigned last summer to become Missouri's new commissioner for higher education.

Nitzschke served as president of Marshall University from 1984 until 1990, and as president of the University of New Hampshire from 1990 until 1994. He is presently head of the firm of Dale F. Nitzschke Associates, educational consultants, based in Milford, Ohio.

During his presidency at Marshall, Nitzschke was instrumental in increasing levels of annual giving, launching a \$10 million capital campaign, achieving major campus improvement projects, establishing a campus-wide telecommunications network, and expanding the university's support base.

At the University of New Hampshire, Nitzschke secured funding for numerous endowed professorships, was responsible for a \$6 million gift from an alumnus, and presided over the establishment of several new academic programs and accreditation by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business.

Nitzschke, who holds a Ph.D. from Ohio University in guidance and counseling, earlier in his career was vice president for academic affairs at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas and dean of the college of education at the University of Northern Iowa. □

NMSU retains architect for new health center

Gould Evans Goodman Associates has been retained by Northwest Missouri State University as the architects for a new student health center of campus.

Northwest's Board of Regents approved a fee from Gould Evans Goodman Associates of \$32,800 for the project, which includes fees for structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing engineers.

The current student health center is located in the North/South Residence Hall Complex. The present location does not have adequate parking spaces for students, and emergency vehicle access is severely restricted. Plans for the new student health center call for a one-story building between 5,000 and 6,500 square feet. Construction is slated to begin on the project sometime this summer.

Regents at Northwest also have approved technology fee expenditures for the upcoming year. An estimated \$360,000 will be generated next year by the technology fee. The fee will also be used for equipment upgrades, including an Internet connection, library computer lab expansion, and a VAX memory upgrade. □

MWSC nursing program receives \$10,000 grant

Missouri Western State College's nursing department has received a \$10,000 grant from the Helene Fuld Health Trust.

Of the 356 schools that applied, Missouri Western was one of 116 to receive the grant. The funds will be used for computer-interactive educational programs.

The Helene Fuld Health Trust promotes the health, welfare, and education of nursing students. In order to be eligible for the grant, the college must operate a school of nursing leading to a degree or license, have tax exempt status, be nationally accredited, and have graduated at least three classes of nursing students. □

Spring Fling Week

SOUTHERN 1996

RENAISSANCE

Thursday
May 2

SCAVENGER
HUNT

On campus,
7 p.m.

1st place group, \$100

ALL-
CAMPUS
PICNIC

10:45 a.m.-
1:15 p.m.,

Friday
May 3

Front Oval. Entertainment by the Flaming Idiots. Free ice cream and free caricatures by Nick Frising.

DANCE, 8p.m.-midnight, BSC Connor Ballroom. Music by Bob Wentworth.

Sponsored by CAB

THE CHART AROUND CAMPUS

Thursday, May 2, 1996

CAMPUS CALENDAR

S M T W T F S
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Today 2

• All clothing and glassware 20% off through May. Also, some clothing already reduced 40-50%. Missouri Southern Bookstore.
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.—Senior Art Shows, Monday-Friday through May 10. Spiva Art Gallery.
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.—Laser Tag, Spring Fling activity, located in front oval.
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—Koinonia Campus Ministries, basement of Stegge Hall.
Noon to 1 p.m.—Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship, Billingsly Student Center, Room 311.
1220 p.m.—Model United Nations meeting, Webster Hall, Room 205.
2 p.m.—National Broadcasting Society AERho meeting, MSTV Studio.
7 p.m.—Scavenger Hunt on campus, Spring Fling activity. First place group receives \$100.

Friday 3

Noon—Psychology Club/Psi Chi meeting, Taylor Education & Psychology, Room 123.
10:45 a.m. to 11 p.m.—All-campus picnic in front campus, Spring Fling activity. Entertainment by the Flaming Idiots, free ice cream, and free caricatures by Nick Frising.
8 p.m. to midnight—Dance, Spring Fling activity. Music by Bob Wentworth. Billingsly Student Center, Connor Ballroom.

Sunday 5

9:30 a.m.—BSU Bible Studies, Baptist Student Union.
2 p.m.—The Harlem Wizards vs. The MSSC Droolers, all students free, others \$4. Robert Ellis Young Gymnasium.

Monday 6

7 p.m.—BSU Bible Studies, Baptist Student Union.

Tuesday 7

11 a.m.—Newman Club, Catholic organization meeting, Billingsly Student Center, Room 306.
Noon—Latter-Day Saints Student Association meeting, Billingsly Student Center, Room 313.
Noon—College Republicans meeting, Billingsly Student Center, Room 311.
1215 p.m.—Young Democrats meeting, Billingsly Student Center, Room 306.
1220 p.m.—Arab League Meeting, Webster Hall, Room 212.

Wednesday 8

5:30 p.m.—Student Senate meeting, Billingsly Student Center, Room 310.

Thursday 9

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—Koinonia Campus Ministries, basement of Stegge Hall.
Noon to 1 p.m.—Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship, Billingsly Student Center, Room 311.
1220 p.m.—Model United Nations meeting, Webster Hall, Room 205.

LAFAYETTE HOUSE

Comedy night to aid shelter

Volunteer stand-up to benefit programs at Lafayette House

By RUSTY WELLS
STAFF WRITER

Students needing a laugh can attend comedy night at 8 p.m. Monday at Webster Hall auditorium.

The night features stand-up comedians Marian Kelly and Chris Fonseca. The proceeds will benefit the Lafayette House.

This is a special event for Lafayette because Kelly is a Missouri Southern graduate. She currently lives in Burbank, Calif., and is coming here strictly on a voluntary basis.

"We were excited about getting Marian because she's a hometown girl," said Donna Snyder, director of community services.

"She was born and raised in the Seneca area. Her mother is still down there, and she was one of nine or 10 children, I believe. She tells lots of things about growing up in a big family."

Kelly's list of credits include co-starring in a syndicated show called "Sweet Valley High," being featured on "Star Search," and opening for such comedians as Tim Allen and Jeff Foxworthy.

"She's been on the A&E network comedy shows, Lifetime network, and MTV's 'Half-Hour Comedy Hour,'" Snyder said. "She's been a

contributing writer for 'The Tonight Show,' and she sent enough material to Jay Leno that he became familiar with her and really liked her. She was on his show about a year ago and did really well."

Fonseca will be the opening act for Kelly. He has cerebral palsy and is in a wheelchair. He has performed on some of the same shows as Kelly.

"She was real concerned about getting a headliner," Snyder said. "We were talking about getting someone from Kansas City or St. Louis so that it wouldn't be too expensive."

She was concerned that the opening act would be appropriate. She didn't want to tarnish her career with stuff she wouldn't approve of."

Snyder said Fonseca is a good friend of Kelly's and told him she needed an opening act and he volunteered his time.

The comedy night is a benefit for the Lafayette House. Proceeds from the benefit will help support its programs, including women's alcohol and drug treatment services, family violence and sexual assault intervention, and child abuse and neglect programs.

Tickets are \$12 and available at the Lafayette House, 1809 Conner; Ernie Williamson Music, 611 Main; and Roosevelt Bank, 20th & Connecticut.

Persons interested in buying tickets may also call the Lafayette House at 782-1772. □

PUT YOUR FINGER THERE



Jean Perkins (left) and Kathy Norris plant a flaming maple tree to represent Soroptimists, who wanted the best for women. The maple tree was put in the soil on Earth Day, which was celebrated April 22.

BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

Students exhibit volition

By KIM GIBSON
STAFF WRITER

Several resolutions made by Missouri Southern students at the 1996 Great Plains Model League of Arab States Conference will be sent to the League of Arab States in Cairo for consideration.

Southern delegates passed 10 resolutions at the April conference and co-authored 10 others that also passed.

In all, Southern had a hand in half of all the resolutions passed by the Arab Model League.

Southern also authored the only resolution to pass unanimously by acclamation.

"I think we all, especially the Missouri Southern delegation, developed a deep sense of pride," said Dr. Conrad Gubera, professor of sociology and Model League of Arab States club adviser.

The purpose of the conference was to sign onto a committee representing an Arab country and adopt that country's perspective to create resolutions concerning issues facing that country.

Most of Southern's delegates were elected officers for their respective committees. Two students, Kimberly Lawry and Jennifer Hurn, served as head delegates.

Several awards were presented to Southern's chapter of the Model League.

Nick Prewett, who served as an officer for his committee, won an honorable mention for the best delegate award.

"He's pretty persuasive when he talks," Gubera said.

Lawry received the honor of best delegate.

Gubera credits her success to "her characteristic consistency in representing a Palestinian viewpoint."

"She never wavered," he said.

"I was fairly outspoken and felt I was prepared," Lawry said.

The award for best delegation was also presented to the Southern chapter.

According to Gubera, the delegation received the award for its leadership in the committees, outstanding delegates, and the quality of the resolutions passed.

"We really bonded this semester," Lawry said. "I was real proud of how we all came together."

Gubera said he noticed Southern's strong speaking abilities, also.

"I saw that in all our delegates," he said.

"Each student learned to speak on their own through the committee process and stand on their feet and answer questions," he said. □

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

Harlem Wizards to reappear at Young Gym

By JASON OWEN
STAFF WRITER

With last year's game being such a success, the Campus Activities Board will bring the Harlem Wizards back to Young Gymnasium at 2 p.m. Sunday for an encore performance.

"Last year went over so well," said Spencer Beck, CAB vice president, "that we just had to bring them back."

"It's a fun, exciting, comedic show that's really fun for everyone. I'm really looking forward to it."

The Wizards, once a part of the Harlem Globetrotters, now travel alone and compete against teams of students and faculty.

"I really think it makes for a better show," Beck said. "The Globetrotters travel with the Generals and do rehearsed routines. The Wizards don't have any routines, it's all ad-lib."

"It also makes things a lot more interesting because it's people you know," he said.

"I mean, everybody loves it when someone like Ed [Butkiewicz] gets

"It's all in fun, so it's not too bad. Besides, it's good for the school. I really think everybody gets a kick out of it."

Ed Butkiewicz
Director of food services

harassed. It's just a lot of fun."

Butkiewicz, director of food services, said he didn't mind the harassment.

"It's all in fun," he said, "so it's not too bad. Besides, it's good for the school. I really think everybody gets a kick out of it."

"I also really enjoy it because I played basketball in college, so it brings back memories," Butkiewicz said.

"I had such a good time last time they were here, I just had to do it again. I couldn't pass up the opportunity."

Beck said not to be surprised to

see "celebrities" on the court.

"We really feel like we have put together a team that will be very recognizable," he said.

"We've got people like Bruce Vonder Haar and Erik Schrader from KODE. We've also got people from around campus like football players Albert Bland and Wallace Clay."

Schrader, a 1990 Southern graduate, said he was "really looking forward" to the competition.

"I said I'd do it because it sounded like a lot of fun," he said. "It's not every day that you get to play against guys this good. I'm looking

SPRING FLING WEEK

CAB sets medieval mood

Activities dish up variety for students

By STEPHANIE WARD
STAFF WRITER

Damsels in distress, fire-eating jesters, and fighting knights will all be seen this week as part of Missouri Southern's "Renaissance" Spring Fling.

In keeping with the renaissance theme of Spring Fling, members of the Campus Activities Board have tried to plan activities and entertainment to set the medieval mood.

Spring Fling started Monday and will end Friday with an all-campus picnic in the afternoon and a dance in the evening.

Val Carlisle, coordinator of student activities, said so far things are going well.

"We did have a real good

response to the chess tournament," she said.

The tournament is a new activity the CAB is sponsoring this year. Carlisle said it ties in with the renaissance theme.

A scavenger hunt, which will have a "rescue the damsel" type of theme, and the Society for Creative Anachronisms, a small group of medieval-dressed people demonstrating sword fights, are also new activities.

The entertainment at Friday's all-campus picnic will be "The Flaming Idiots."

"They are a trio of guys," Carlisle said, "who juggle and swallow fire and swords. They have been at the Renaissance Festival. That's why we got them. They are very Renaissance-oriented entertainment."

"Hopefully," Carlisle said, "if the weather holds out, we'll have a wonderful Spring Fling." □

"Life Is Too Short To Drink Cheap Beer"

DOMESTIC & IMPORTED BEER (BOTTLED)

Chili Beer
Legacy Red Ale
Full Sale Nut Brown Ale
Full Sale Amber Ale
Sapporo
Moretti
Peroni
Spaten
Grolsch
Rolling Rock
Hornsby Draft Cider
Belgian Beers
Chimay Ale
Lefte Bloud Ale
Bell-Vue Fromboise
Bell-Vue Kriek
Hoegaarden White Ale
German Beers
Hefe-Weizen
Bavarian Alpine Extreme
Salvator

IMPORTED BEER (DRAUGHT)

Bass Ale - England
Guinness XX Stout - Ireland
Harps Lager - Ireland
Heineken - Holland
Moosehead - Canada
Newcastle Brown - England
Pilsner Urquell - Czechoslovakia
Warsteiner - Germany

DOMESTIC BEER (DRAUGHT)

Anchor Steam
Amber Bock
Budweiser
Bud Light
Busch
Coors Light
Killians Irish Red
Miller Lite
Red Dog
Red Hook ESB
Samuel Adams-Boston Lager
Boulevard-Bully Porter
Boulevard-Irish Ale
Boulevard-Wheat Unfiltered
Boulevard-Ten Penny
Boulevard-Pale Ale



2101 Range Line
782-1616

FUEL FLUCTUATION

Joplin gas prices below U.S. average

Retail Motor Gasoline Prices

■ The price of gas has risen in the U.S., but Missouri could have it worse.

Date	U.S. avg.	Mo. avg.
4/15/96	124.2	123.2
4/8/96	120.4	119.7
4/1/96	117.8	117.4
3/25/96	116.4	116.6
3/18/96	113.5	113.0
3/11/96	112.5	111.4
3/4/96	112.4	112.3
2/26/96	110.7	110.7
2/19/96	108.7	106.7
2/12/96	108.0	105.7
2/5/96	108.3	105.8
1/29/96	108.7	105.9
1/22/96	109.1	107.1
1/15/96	109.8	108.5
1/8/96	109.3	108.7
1/1/96	108.3	106.8

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Energy



RYAN BRONSON/The Chart

Commuters want relief from higher gasoline prices

By STEPHANIE GOAD
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Commuters and local residents alike say they are getting tired of the "ridiculous" petroleum roller coaster ride, but it's hard to say when or if the track will level off.

Jennifer Hardin, junior nursing major from Nevada, Mo., said the rise and fall of fuel prices throws her weekly budget for a loop.

"If you spend three to five more dollars a week in gas it doesn't sound like much, but if you fill up twice a week it can add up to a lot of money," she said.

Over the past few weeks local gas prices have fluctuated from anywhere between \$1.09 and \$1.19 per gallon, but area oil companies say they have little control over the situation.

"Basically, all refiners change their fuel prices at midnight and we get billed for that price," said Brice Martin, general manager

of Martin Oil Co. He said wholesale distributors have to adjust their prices accordingly in order to prevent a loss in profit, but often are blamed solely for the increase.

"It's like the stock market," Martin said. "People who buy and sell have no control over it. We are definitely the middle man. When the price increase is too substantial, we absorb the difference," he said, "but also take the blame."

"Gas companies found a chance to make a killing off of people and can get away with it because they know people have to have gas," said Linda Hutchcraft, a junior nursing major from Mount Vernon.

Martin explained possible reasons the prices have taken an upward tilt.

"The U.S. suffered a very severe winter, which left the fuel supply low and the demand was really high," he said.

A second reason he cited for the push in price was that U.S. oil refiners in general held back their fuel inventory, creating a supply shortage.

"The state of Missouri added a two-cent fuel tax April 1," he said. "People don't realize that every gallon they buy in Missouri, they pay 18.3 cents to the federal and 17 cents to the state. For every dollar of gas you spend, you pay 35.3 cents in taxes."

Martin says he can see a reduction in fuel prices in the future, but not the near future.

"The prices will probably come down; they may not now because of the approaching traveling season, but possibly in the fall when the demand slows down," he said.

According to Mike Burdett, an analyst at the National Department of Energy in Washington, D.C., in order to regionalize the country, the nation is broken up into five Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD).

"Missouri is in PADD 2," he said. "The wintertime low was in late January, but the price of gas has come up steadily ever since."

Burdett said Missouri fuel prices usually are under the national average. Missouri's PADD 2 is now only one cent under.

According to commuter college students, until the prices of petroleum take a plunge for the better, there will be little relief on the purse strings.

"I'll be looking forward to summer because I can save the money for groceries or for gas for the next semester," said Brooke Stearns, a sophomore secondary social science and history education major from Mount Vernon.

"It's outrageous," she said. "You have to pay for insurance, oil, upkeep, and on top of that, you pay so much for gas."

Fuel prices: Is it conspiracy?

By NELSON WEBB
STAFF WRITER

Is it a conspiracy, a political strategy, or just another way for the oil companies to squeeze more money from the unsuspecting public?

It seems when the subject of gasoline prices comes up these days, everyone has something to say.

"I get a lot of complaints lately," said Bill Hatly, gas station owner/operator.

"They think I have something to do with setting prices. Believe me, when prices go up, I have to pay more, too."

Though President Clinton has ordered the Energy Department to sell off 12 million barrels of oil

from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve in an attempt to drive down prices, not everyone is so sure it had to come to that.

Lem Ranier, a tool pusher and one-time distribution executive, said the whole story about companies not estimating supply and demand correctly is bogus.

"It's kind of a running joke around here," he said. "Some people think that there is a conspiracy going on. One says the oil companies knew that speed limits were going up and that oil companies waited for that to happen, knowing the demand would be higher."

"I'm not sure I would go so far as to accept that, but at the same time, I've seen some pretty underhanded things go on in this business," he said.

Another theory holds that Clinton allowed, even orchestrated, the whole thing as an election-year ploy.

"It wouldn't surprise me if he allowed this deal so he could come in and save the day," Ranier said.

There are, however, some in the business who take offense at those who would put the blame on the shoulders of government or the big oil companies.

"All this talk about conspiracy is just ridiculous," said Sam Estes, an Oklahoma City geologist.

"We work on speculation and try not to overproduce. Also, we don't have the tax incentives to just go out and explore the way we used to."



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Grady Huke, senior marketing major, watches the meter as he puts gas into his Mitsubishi at a Conoco located on Duquense Road.

SEARS & ROEBUCK

Northpark gets Sears

By LISA BUFFINGTON
CHART REPORTER

Northpark Mall is tossing out old concepts and upgrading its shopping center by giving its customers what they want.

Sears, located in the Sears Plaza at 800 High St. for nearly 40 years, is moving into the northeast wing of the mall. Target date for the move is Oct. 5.

"Our sales volume has jumped sky-high, and we need to expand," said Jeannie Thomas, Sears store manager. "This move will also give us more exposure and store traffic."

Sears' headquarters in Chicago rates Sears stores nationwide with either a "B" standing, given to its smaller stores, or an "A" standing for its larger merchandise-carrying outlets. This move slated for Joplin's store will change its status from "B" to an "A" store.

The new Sears will consist of 100,000 square feet of store space with a 17,000-square-foot automotive center located directly behind it.

There are several new shops in the making that will be following Sears' steps in the near future.

"Sears is on a roll right now," Turner said. "We are happy to add them to our family of stores."

"This is a great opportunity for Joplin," Thomas said. "A larger store requires more employees, plus an increase in area sales, which strengthens the economy."



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Evangelia Potts, freshman undecided major, makes cappuccino at The Basket Case, a coffeehouse located at 510 Joplin Street.

JOPLIN SPOTLIGHT

1970s fad revitalizes area coffeehouse craze

By STEPHANIE WARD
STAFF WRITER

Coffeehouses. A few years ago, this word would have brought to most minds an image of "cool cats" and "hip chicks" dressed head to toe in black, "digging" the sounds of deep poetry readings and sipping cappuccinos.

This scene was a familiar one in the 1960s and 1970s, but not a long-lasting one. During the past year or so, with the help of popular television shows, coffeehouses are making a huge comeback and causing a coffeehouse craze.

"In the '70s it was a big fad," said Brook Drumm, part owner of the Java House located at 201 E. Fourth in downtown Joplin. "It was really like the whole poetry thing and the love thing. Now, it's kind of a hipster thing to do—almost kind of a yuppie hip thing."

Charlotte Hitchcock, manager of newly opened Downtown Perk in Carthage, said she thinks coffeehouses have become more professional.

"Back in the '60s," Hitchcock said, "it was basically a hippie hangout. It's lost some of that...it's become a little more well-rounded. I think we still have that [hippie image], but there's a different side to it now."

"We've got the best of both worlds here," Hitchcock said.

Drumm said he thinks '70s coffeehouses were a big fad and mostly about hanging out somewhere, but today's coffeehouses are more about good service and the quality of the coffee.

"I think any place that serves good food and has good coffee, a friendly

atmosphere and a nice, safe place to go where parents don't worry about their kids—you know, where adults walk in and feel comfortable—will always be in demand," Drumm said.

"I think each coffeehouse has its own little specialty," said Robin Newman, owner of The Basket Case, at 510 Joplin St. "Ours is the gourmet food, The Grind caters to the younger crowd, the Java House caters to college kids. So each one has their own little niche," she said.

The average customer of today's coffeehouses can vary from grunge to professional.

At the Downtown Perk at 309 E. Fourth in Carthage, which opened April 8, Hitchcock said she usually gets the "white-collar professional" type in the daytime and the younger "Generation X" crowd at night.

The Basket Case draws mostly the older crowd, 30s to 40s in age, according to Newman.

For the Java House, Drumm said he doesn't have an average customer. He said it's really an eclectic group. There are all sorts of different types of people.

"A lot of the people who come here aren't hard coffee drinkers," Drumm said, "and they can't drink a straight shot of espresso."

"The only time you get into your more pricey stuff is when you start drinking double shots," Hitchcock said.

As for future plans for area coffeehouses, Java House is no longer going to be serving lunch, as of May 6.

Downtown Perk is working on a garden area which will be open this summer.

Hitchcock hopes to have live bands, etc. in the garden.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

High winds in local towns cause problems

Clipped telephone poles and fallen power lines left many residents without phone service and electrical power early Sunday morning after heavy winds and flooding rains swept through the area.

An estimated 3,000 customers of Empire Electric Co. lost power not only in Joplin, but in many surrounding communities such as Aurora, Cassville, and Baxter Springs, Kan.

Range Line was blocked off from 20th St. to I-44 due to the downed power lines and scattered debris from defaced businesses.

Some city streets were blocked by toppled trees, causing traffic to reroute.

Amid Sunday's traffic congestion, the restaurants on Range Line between 20th St. and I-44 were forced to close due to power outages, causing overcrowding in some of the remaining Joplin restaurants.

'Friday Frolics' offers alternative for children

An alternate activity for preschoolers is being offered through the Joplin Family Y.

"Friday Frolics" is an opportunity for preschoolers to enjoy a field trip to a fire station, lunch at McDonald's, educational movies, and free play in Kid's Quest.

The activity will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, May 10 at the Y.

Enrollment is limited to 15 children, ages 3 to 5 years of age. One staff member will be provided for every five children.

Cost of the event will be \$10 for Y members and \$15 for community members.

The purpose of the activity is to allow the children fun interaction in a safe environment.

The Y is also offering a family-oriented, recreational softball league with the focus on fun and family. The league is noncompetitive and will run for 10 weeks with one game to be played each week.

The non-sanctioned league runs from May through July. Registration must be made by May 20. Team fees are \$290. More information may be obtained by contacting Kevin Welch at (417) 623-4597.

Residential care center opens on E. Zora Street

The White House, a new residential-care center, has opened a new facility at 2030 E. Zora St. in Joplin.

The care center is a 26-unit site which offers three meals a day to residents, as well as housekeeping services, medical supervision, and limited personal assistance.

The nursing home, owned and operated by White House LLC, was built by Autry Construction Co. of Baxter Springs, Kan. White House has similar sites in Baxter Springs and Columbus.

Children's network donates training gear

Purchased with funds allocated by Children's Miracle Network (CMN), the Joplin Fire Department and Newton County Ambulance District are receiving pediatric life-saving and training equipment.

The fire department will receive six bag mask resuscitator kits for infants and six for children from CMN. The Newton County Ambulance service will receive training models (mannequins) for training purposes. The models are to be donated by CMN.

Each year CMN allocates half of the funds collected to help hospitalized children. The funds also assist parents with travel and transportation expenditures when the transfer of the child is necessary. The remaining half of the generated funds is used for the purchase of medical equipment that is available to children in the community.



COMING ATTRACTIONS
On Campus
All times on campus are 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Spiva Art Gallery
Gallery hours 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Now-May 10—Senior Shows, as part of their graduation requirements, three groups of seniors will exhibit works in the special media emphasis.
Now-May 14—Pottery show in the lobby of the art building.
Taylor Auditorium
May 2—Symphonic Band Concert.
May 6—Orchestra Concert.
May 9—Choir Concert.
Webster Hall auditorium
May 3—Jazz in Joplin, Corner Pocket.
May 11—Joplin Piano Teachers' Sonata Festival.
May 11—Suzuki Student Festival.
Phinney Recital Hall
May 16—Choral Society Concert.

Joplin
Memorial Hall
May 19—38 Special with Blue Oyster Cult.
The Grind
784-7999
All events are at 9 p.m.
Tuesday nights—Open Mike Night.
May 8—lanore.
May 11—Walking on Einstein.
May 24—King Friday.
May 25—Oreo Blue.
May 31—Missionaries.
The Java House
659-8500
All events are at 9 p.m.
May 3—Carl Howe.
May 10—Solice.
May 16—Poetry reading, English 316, 1 p.m.
May 17—Glen Loen.
May 25—Water Deep.
May 31—Butler Broher.
Bypass
624-9095
All events are at 9:30 p.m.
Every Wednesday is Alternative Wednesday.
Champs
782-4944
All times are at 9 p.m.
April 26-27—Scott Ellison Band.
May 4—Walking on Einstein.
May 10-11—Mesa Michael.
May 17-18—Ratty Lataune.
May 24-25—Streamline.
May 31—Night Train.

Springfield
Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts
1800-962-2787
May 3-5—Cats.
Springfield Symphony
864-6683
May 11—Broadway and Beyond with guest vocalist Kim Crosby.
Vandivort Center Theatre
831-8001
Now-27—Closer Than Ever.
May 4-5—Springfield Ballet's Precious Jewels.
May 11—Roger Landes and Connie Dover.
May 18-19—Gash/Voigt Dance Theatre of St. Louis.

Kansas City
Kemper Arena
(816) 274-1900
May 17—R. Kelly with LL Cool J.
May 29—Campbell's Soup 1996 Figure Skating Champions.
Memorial Hall
(913) 371-7555
May 14—Joan Osborne. (CANCELED)
Sandstone Amphitheatre.
(816) 931-3330
April 27—Country Concert Series '96: Joe Diffie, Rhett Atkins, and Neal McCoy.
May 4—Alabama and Kenny Chesney.
May 26—Dwight Yokum with David Ball.
June 7—Brooks & Dunn with Tracy Byrd and David Lee Murphy.
June 8-31 with No Doubt and The Urge.
June 28—Meatloaf.
June 29—The Moody Blues.
June 30—The Monkees.
July 3—James Taylor.
July 10—Hootie and the Blowfish.
July 28—Styx.

ART DEPARTMENT

Spring sale eases artists' cost

Raku headlines pottery show demonstrations

By KEVIN COLEMAN
ASSISTANT ARTS EDITOR

Art students are holding their annual spring pottery show and sale in the lobby area between the music and arts departments.

"It's an opportunity for the students to show off their talents and to earn a little money to help defray expenses," said Jon Fowler, professor of art.

"The department doesn't get a cut from this, and the reason for that is students pay for all their own materials for the class.

"This is a way of helping them pay for the clays and glazes they use in the making of the pottery."

The show features functional and non-functional handmade pottery made of stoneware, porcelain, and earthenware clays. Raku is also on display.

"It seems like the Raku pieces sell the best," Fowler said. "Raku is a 16th century Japanese firing technique that Americans have westernized,



Gary Crim, junior art education major, scrapes the glaze off a pot during a Raku demonstration. Crim will have pots and illustrations on display at the Downtown Perk and Coffee Shop in Carthage.

so it's not really traditional," he said.

With the Raku process, the pots are taken from the kiln, hot. The pots are then put in a can of sawdust with a lid over it for a short time, and finally

cooled by a submersion in water.

Two Raku demonstrations have been held this week, and two more are scheduled for Monday and Wednesday, both from 3:30 to 5 p.m. The demon-

strations can be seen behind Spiva Art Gallery, at the foundry.

Most students enter four or five pieces to begin with, but some may enter 20 or 30 before the end of the show. □

THE WINGED LION

Art, literary magazine to be read at Java House

By KEVIN COLEMAN
ASSISTANT ARTS EDITOR

Volume 24 of Missouri Southern's annual publication *The Winged Lion*, which combines the pick of Southern writers and artists, will be available on campus Friday.

Students in the art and English departments publish *The Winged Lion* each year. It features literary and art works created by a cross-section of student submissions.

Two student committees sorted through the more than 100 writings and 80 works of art submitted for selection this year.

English majors Aileen Gronewold, Holly Spencer, and Gayle Crenshaw decided on 26 pieces of literature.

"Students select the work, based on literary merit," said Dr. Joy Dworkin, assistant professor of English. "They also try to include different

genres—some poetry, some fiction, and some creative non-fiction.

"We had a lot more creative non-fiction submitted this year," she said.

Graphic communications seniors Kim Bell, Stacy Winkler, Linda Rogers, and Sean Shuster, along with juniors Barbara Silabower and Jennifer Wainz selected the 26 art works to be features in the publication.

"We picked 35 or 40 pieces of work and photographed them," Bell said. "We had to eliminate some after we saw how they showed up on film."

"The students were very concerned this year with how the literature combined with the art work," said David Noblett, associate professor of art. "They were trying to tie in each piece of literature with a certain art work, so there is a relationship between the writing and the art."

The art students also designed the new cover and chose the print for *The Winged Lion*.

"We all got together, and we wanted something different," Bell said. "We didn't want to use the lion on the cover again. So we decided on typography for the cover and a free-form design. We also made it eight by 10 [inches] this year."

Noblett said this year's publication will be easier to read than last year's edition.

"It's a little more conservative," he said. "They were very concerned with readership and how a person viewed the book."

"They didn't want to play fancy games with type and make it difficult to read. So it's pretty straightforward, but it's enjoyable, too, with art work throughout to give it a touch of elegance."

The writers featured in *The Winged Lion* will perform a reading of their works on May 9 at The Java House.

For more information call Dworkin at Ext. 9647. □

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Marching band converts to orchestra for spring tour, concert

Spring concert to be conducted tonight at Taylor

By CRAIG BEFFA
EDITORIAL EDITOR

After a busy tour schedule, the Symphonic Band of Missouri Southern will conduct its spring concert at 7:30 tonight in Taylor Auditorium.

"Basically the Symphonic Band is the same people as the marching band," said Pete Havely, head of the music department, "but there are a few differences."

Havely said the music be

selects has to appeal to the general populous.

"It has to be challenging to our students and educationally sound," he said.

"We pick music which will make people better."

He also said he selects music that will be accepted by the audience and that he knows the band can play.

"We are appreciative to our young adults' abilities," said Robert Meeks, assistant professor of music. "We are like a tight-knit family."

The Symphonic Band visited four schools Monday and Tuesday and played two concerts a day as part of its spring concert tour.

It visited Wheaton, Seneca,

Strafford, and East Newton high schools.

"This year we decided to go a little closer to home," Havely said.

"We decided to go to schools which we draw students from. Each time we went to a school we had a student who graduated from there."

Meeks said the music department is not the only department that benefits from its going to other schools.

"We go to other schools to recruit," he said.

"In a way, we are helping admissions because the students still have to take their core curriculum."

Havely also said usually the

66

It has to be challenging to our students and educationally sound. We pick music which will make people better.

Pete Havely
Head of the music department

99

band does not practice after it returns from the spring tour, but this time it needed to practice because of the sound shell.

"We are not used to the new sound shell," he said. "But I think it will sound good."

The 70-piece band will perform popular and patriotic pieces, including the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and selections from *The Music Man* and others. The concert is free to the public. □

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MSIPC

Prize surprises Russian artist

Kislenko to play in Carnegie Hall debut performance

By MICHAEL DAVISON
ARTS EDITOR

In the high pressure world of piano competitions, each pianist has a different approach to performing.

Natasha Kislenko, senior winner of the Missouri Southern International Piano Competition, hated the luck of her semifinal draw; she was the final performer.

"I hate to wait, and for five days I was doing nothing," said the 25-year-old Moscow, Russia, native. "But now I can't believe I'm going to play in Carnegie Hall."

"I'm shaking because it is such a surprise."

While she was waiting, she stayed with Dr. Robert Stauffer and his wife, Lauren. On Wednesday Kislenko was not in the practicing mood, so she did some other things.

"She was going 75 miles per hour in a speedboat on Beaver Lake during the day, then at night she took a ride in Bob's convertible," Lauren Stauffer said.

"She said that was two things she hadn't had a chance to do before."

Going into the competition, Kislenko said she never made a goal of winning.

"I don't consider my playing to be good enough to win first prize," she said. "I could find 100 mistakes in my playing, and I know I could have played better, but it's always hard to pick a winner. Even though I didn't get a chance to hear everybody play, I know everybody played very well."

But after it was all over and she could look back at it all, she thought it was fun even with all the pressure.

"It's more than a dream come true," Kislenko said. "My head is a little tired from the stage lights, and it's really easy to lose your concentration, but I didn't."

Upon arriving at the informal pizza party on April 22, Kislenko saw four people she had met previously.

"Two of them I had met in Russia, but I also saw Adam [Skoumal, from the Czech Republic]," Kislenko said. "We went to the same school together and we are close friends. I think he came because I called him and told him I was coming. He said it was a very good competition."

"I came here because it is in the U.S.A. and I study here [at Southern Methodist University]. It also is in the springtime compared to most others which are in the summer which I like because it is not so hot."

At SMU, Kislenko studies under Joaquin Achucarro, but has been playing since she was 5.

"My mother used to play, and she could notice that I had some kind of talent, even when I was just a little kid," she said.

For winning, Kislenko not only gets a debut in Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, but also \$5,000.

"I'm scared to perform tonight," she said before Saturday's Gala Concert featuring all of the finalists. "Nobody expected me to win."



Kislenko

This was the seventh competition she has entered, but her first-ever first place. She had not entered any competitions in the United States because she wanted to get used to her new teacher.

"I believe I study with the best piano teacher in China, and I have a strong self-confidence based on school, my teacher, my family, and a love for the piano."

Although he doesn't speak English very well, Liu said he felt at home during the competition.

"My host family (Mike and Ann Cope) and Vivian Leon (director of MSIPC) really went all out to help," he said.

"I really appreciate all the help from everyone and thank everyone, from the Chinese teachers and my parents to the Copes, for the opportunity to be here."

One of the obstacles Liu had to overcome was the time difference between the two countries.

MSIPC

Eight years of work pay off for pianist

By MICHAEL DAVISON
ARTS EDITOR

If anything, an eighth grader working eight hours a day for eight years has potential.

Jian Liu, a 15-year-old from Qing Dao, China, took first place in the Junior Division of the 1996 Missouri Southern International Piano Competition.

Liu practices eight hours a day, but bumped it up to 10 to 12 during the competition last week.

"I really wanted to show more people my strong ability on the piano," he said.

"I believe I study with the best piano teacher in China, and I have a strong self-confidence based on school, my teacher, my family, and a love for the piano."

Although he doesn't speak English very well, Liu said he felt at home during the competition.

"My host family (Mike and Ann Cope) and Vivian Leon (director of MSIPC) really went all out to help," he said.

"I really appreciate all the help from everyone and thank everyone, from the Chinese teachers and my parents to the Copes, for the opportunity to be here."

One of the obstacles Liu had to overcome was the time difference between the two countries.

"It was hard to get over the jet lag," he said with a smile. "There is 13 hours difference between us."

As far as the opposition, Liu thought the field was difficult.

"The competition is very organized, and each contestant has a high level of competency," he said.

"You can really learn from the other contestants."

Because he is only 15, he is eligible to compete in the next MSIPC, two years from now. He plans to come back and defend his title, and as far as Ann Cope is concerned, he can stay with her again.

"He has a standing reservation with us," she said.

"He really has no ego; he is very humble."

Liu sees the piano becoming more prevalent in Chinese households in the near future.

"More and more parents want to educate their children and improve the quality in the family," he said. "The grand piano is still rare; most people have uprights."

"I really like Ann's grand, because it's more than 100 years old."

While staying on the Copes' farm, Liu became more aware of the contrasting cultures.

"It's a different environment



Liu

because you have cats and dogs," he said. "On Saturday afternoon, I got to be in a real roundup, like a cowboy."

Although his piano practice habits are similar to a full-time job, Liu does enjoy drawing pictures and stamp collecting.

"I also like to play computer games, but my mother and teacher don't like me to because it takes away my time," he said.

With the \$1,500 prize award, he plans to buy a CD—yes, one CD. "CDs are very expensive in China," Liu said.

"One CD is the equivalent of a fifth of one month's salary. My piano teacher sacrifices a lot in buying some for me."

He attends the Music Middle School Attached to the Central Conservatory of Music, where he is an excellent eighth-grade student, said Linda Zhang, wife of Jin Zhang, his piano teacher.

Linda Zhang contributed to this article as an interpreter.



Missouri Southern Music Department is looking for people who enjoy singing. Music majors and nonmusic majors are welcomed to audition for the Concert Choral. If you enjoy pop music, dancing and singing, then come and audition for Southern Exposure. For further information contact Bud Clark, Director of Choral Activities, 625-9562.

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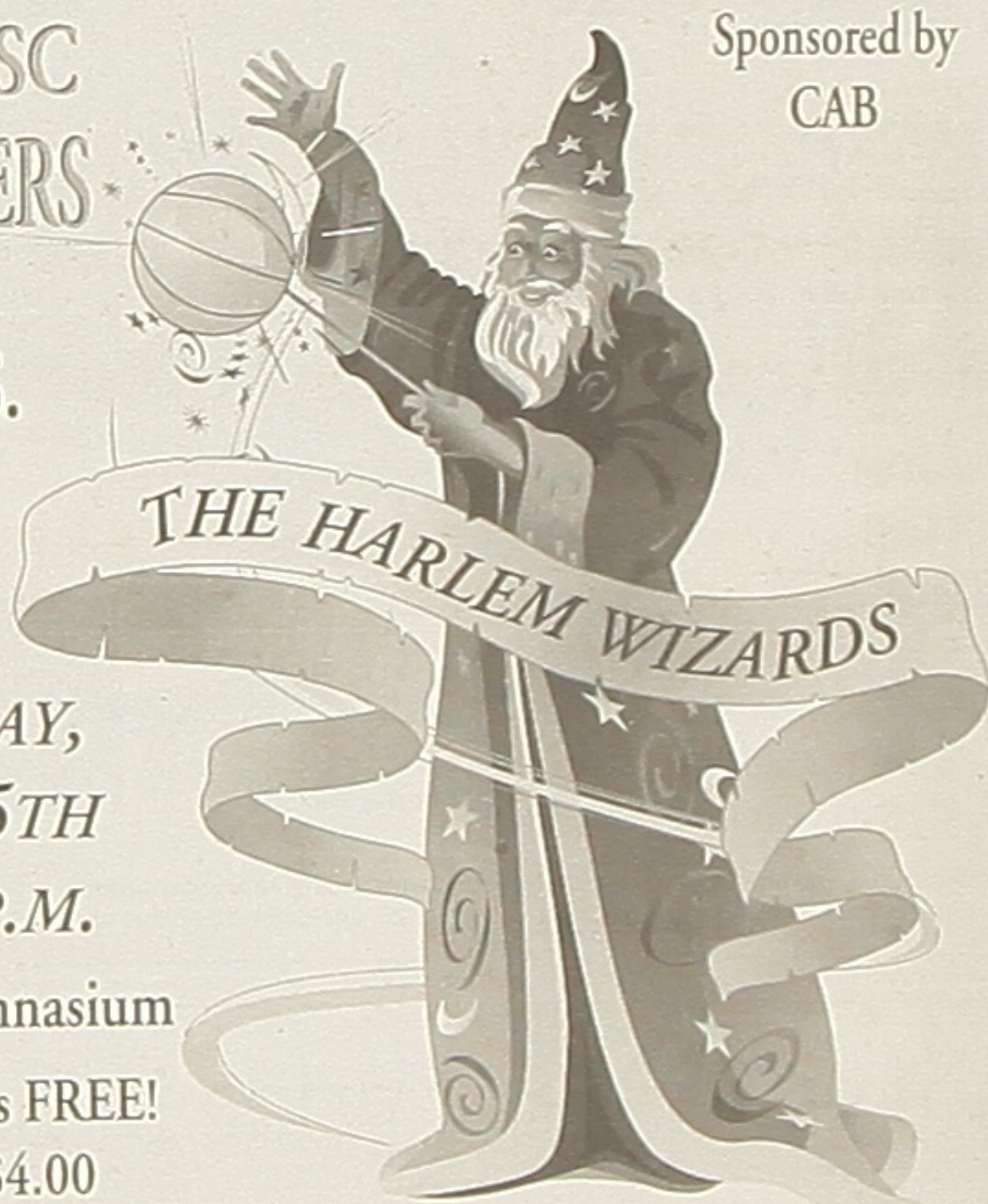
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS



CATHERINE ROSS/The Chart

Dr. Vernon (Ben) Peterson, professor of Spanish, enjoys using music and poetry to teach Spanish to his students. He still hopes to teach one or two classes on a part-time basis after his retirement.

Peterson wishes College well

Professor has fulfilled goals; hopes to study more cultures

By SHANDY McBRIDE
CHART REPORTER

The father, missionary, and professor who began teaching at Missouri Southern 17 years ago is about to retire.

"I had three goals in life," said Dr. Vernon (Ben) Peterson, professor of Spanish.

No. 1 was to be a father, and he has five children and 16 grandchildren.

No. 2 was to be a missionary, and he was and still is.

No. 3 was to be a professor, "and I am," Peterson said. "I am very grateful."

He said he did not plan to stay at Southern as long as he has.

"I thought I would teach graduate school," he said. "However, I met someone, fell in love, and found great joy. I'm very happy to have so many friends."

Peterson founded SOHISPRO, the Sociedad Hispano-Norteamericana Pro-Educacion, in 1991, giving him the opportunity to meet photographers, doctors, nurses, and students from other countries.

"I value our resources from other countries," he said. "I try to use them without abusing them."

"One thing I liked about teaching was not correcting exams," he said, "but I never liked having to place a letter grade to a student."

Peterson said his teaching techniques have changed over the years.

"I use music and poetry," he said.

Peterson said he has learned how to read his students' emotions.

"When I see that they are troubled, I like to recite poems from Emily Dickinson to help get them motivated," he said.

"Students need more enthusiasm and passion for knowledge," he said. "The students have changed over the years. It takes more to get them interested."

Dr. Harold Bodon, professor of French and German, has had the office next to Peterson for the past 17 years.

"He's a very sincere person," Bodon said.

"He's helped me personally and professionally."

"He is an excellent instructor, and he puts students foremost in his mind," he added. "It was a pleasure to have been associated with him."

Peterson said his favorite memories are the Christmas parties the communications department used to give. He directed his colleagues in caroling.

"I loved it," he said.

The only regret Peterson has is that he wanted to "tell, show, and transmit" so many more things.

"Overall, I feel that my career has really advanced by coming here," he said.

After retirement, Peterson hopes the department will expand enough so he can teach one or two courses every year on a part-time basis.

"I hope to study more languages, travel to the Hispanic world, and document trips with colored slides," he said.

"I want to read and write poetry," he said.

"However, I'm going to do my best to say a great deal with simple words instead of impacting it. That's what people are doing now, but I don't subscribe." □

Students need more enthusiasm and passion for knowledge.

Dr. Ben Peterson
Spanish professor

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

Junkins sees changes

'Charming' professor remembers when faculty numbered 30

By ELIZABETH LOVLAND
CAMPUS EDITOR

In his 33-year career at Missouri Southern, Dr. J. Merrell Junkins, professor of psychology, has played witness to the College's many transformations throughout the years.

From Joplin Junior College, Jasper County Community College, Missouri Southern College, to Missouri Southern State College, Junkins has seen it all.

"I think I'll live long enough to see it become Missouri Southern State University," he said.

Junkins started teaching elementary school when he was 19 years old.

"I was old enough to teach, but I wasn't old enough to drive the school bus," he said.

At the age of 26, he transferred from the elementary to Joplin Junior College.

"Back when I first started, I taught five sections of General Psychology," he said. "Three on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and two on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Friday was the drop shift; you worked until you dropped, then went home."

When Junkins arrived in 1963, the College had only 30 faculty members.

"We had lunch together in the cafeteria every day, so we had perfect communication between all of the faculty," he said. "We also had 700 to 800 students, so I knew a lot of students by name."

During the next 33 years, the size of the faculty grew tenfold, and the student population once topped 6,000.

"Today, I do not even know how many faculty members we have,"

"I like to play golf, and I'm going to play golf a little more."

Dr. J. Merrell Junkins
Psychology professor

but it is closer to 300 than it is to 30," Junkins said.

"Most of the faculty members on this campus I don't even know by name."

"We are a whole lot more isolated by department today."

Junkins said he has gone through personal changes as well.

"I'm much grayer, and I weigh about 50 pounds more than I did," he said. "But I'm still about the same height."

Junkins also said he is more tolerant, open to a greater number of views, and listens more.

"One of the things I have discovered about myself over the years is that about the time I really get comfortable with a position, I hear something, read something, or see something on TV, and it screws me up," Junkins said.

"Then I have to rethink again, and often change my position."

Of the many memories Junkins has, one of the best is when he was named one of the College's outstanding teachers in 1983.

"I told my colleagues at the time the money involved would go very quickly, the plaque would last a little longer, but the memory is forever," he said. "I will never forget that."

Dr. Gwen Murdock, associate professor of psychology, said Junkins was the first faculty member from Southern she met when she came for an interview in 1985.

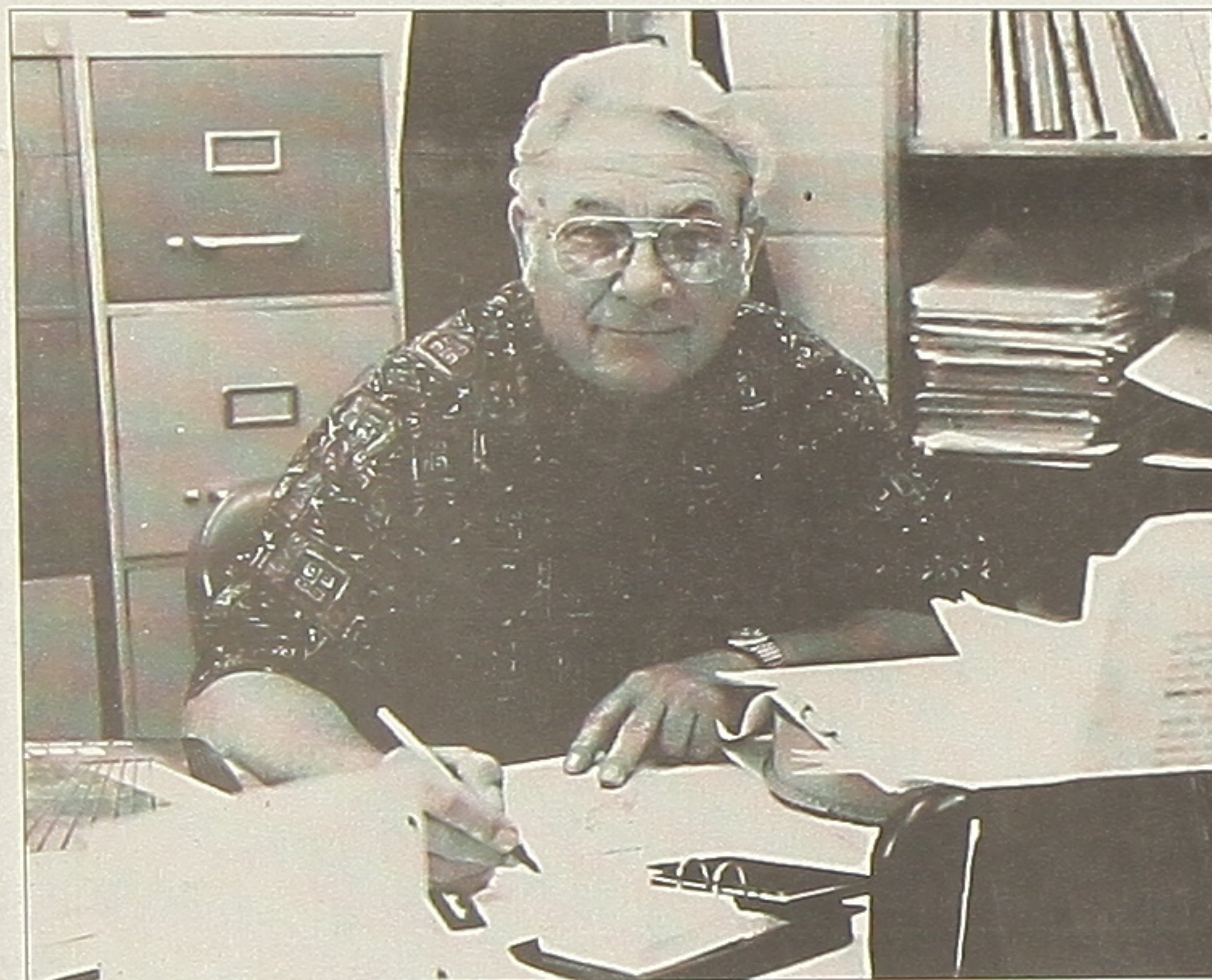
"From the outset he's a very charming person," Murdock said. "He's a very good mentor for all of us."

As for retirement plans, Junkins said he has "nothing terribly sophisticated" planned.

"I like to play golf, and I'm going to play golf a little more," he said.

"I like to fish, and I'm going to fish a little more. I have two grandchildren, and I want to spend some more time with them."

Junkins also has an idea for a book which he said he may write more for his own enjoyment than anything else. □



CATHERINE ROSS/The Chart

Dr. J. Merrell Junkins, professor of psychology, began teaching elementary school when he was 19 years old, and transferred to Joplin Junior College when he was 26. Junkins said he has an idea for a book he may write.

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS



CATHERINE ROSS/The Chart

Carolyn Cunningham, assistant professor of business, came to Missouri Southern in 1978. She plans to travel with her husband, Dick.

Cunningham feels sense of pride in Southern

Accounting professor spent nearly 20 years as housewife

By GINA PETERSON
CHART REPORTER

Stepping away from such a wonderful environment will be painful for Carolyn Cunningham, assistant professor of business.

Cunningham, who came to Missouri Southern in 1978, will retire this spring after 18 years of service. She graduated from Southern in 1972 and received her master's degree from Pittsburg State University the following year.

"I feel a special sense of pride in Southern," Cunningham said.

"If this College had not been located in Joplin, it would have been impossible for me to have received a degree in accounting or even complete my education."

After two years at the University of Missouri-Columbia, Cunningham said she spent nearly 20 years as a housewife before returning to school.

During her years as a student at Southern, Cunningham was influenced to teach by Larry Goode, her former accounting instructor.

"One day he spoke to me in the hall and said, 'Carolyn, have you ever thought about teaching accounting?' At that time, I had never thought about it," she said.

"After considering Mr. Goode's statement, I furthered my education and was privileged to get a position at Missouri Southern."

Now, she loves teaching accounting.

"Teaching is the best thing that ever happened to me," said Cunningham, who added that the College provided her with an excellent academic background. "I am surrounded by the best people. We have teachers in the business department that have a tremendous influence on students."

Jim Gray, dean of the school of business, said he will miss her wisdom.

"She provided a stabilizing influence over years," Gray said. "She is a special lady who cares a lot for this institution."

Gray added that Cunningham has always been someone to look up to.

"She has been a great role model for younger faculty members," he said.

"As dean, whenever I needed support from the school of business, I could always count on Carolyn Cunningham."

Over the years, Cunningham has seen many changes in the College. One of the biggest

"Teaching is the best thing that ever happened to me."

Carolyn Cunningham
Assistant professor, business

changes, she said, is in the quality of the campus facilities. Cunningham also said today's students are less focused.

"Now, there is less desire to learn," she said. "I love my students. They can come out of my class flunking, but I'll love them anyway."

Cunningham said she plans to travel with her husband, Dick, after she retires.

Overall, she said she has no regrets about her career.

"Thank you, Missouri Southern, for everything," she said. □

STUDENT SERVICES



CATHERINE ROSS/The Chart

Dr. Glenn Dolence, vice president for student services, is retiring after 27 years of looking after student welfare.

Dolence gives farewell to College

By JENNIFER RABOLD
CHART REPORTER

After 27 years of looking after the concerns and welfare of Missouri Southern students, Dr. Glenn Dolence, vice president for student services, has decided to step down.

"When I first came to Southern [as dean of men in 1969], we had only 2,000 students and three or four house trailers that served as residence halls for our male athletes," he said. "In 1970, Blaine and McCormick halls were built and various building improvements came after that."

"During '79-'80 our student enrollment increased, and we built residence halls and apartment complexes, which now house 550 students," he added.

Besides his hair turning gray, Dolence says he has had to adopt different philosophies during his time with Southern.

"You try to maintain those standards of being reared," he said. "You hope to change enough to fit within the societal structure and yet not give up your standards."

Along with his philosophies changing,

Dolence also noticed the changes within his teaching.

"When I taught in public school my first year, it was during Sputnik," he said. "Today you have to incorporate technology into the course."

Even though Dolence is glad to have such technology, he questions the strong dependence on it.

"Technology is fantastic; the computer, the World Wide Web, to gain access to that much information is great, but I question the computer," he said. "Can it ever take the place of a good motivational teacher in the classroom? The student success is due to a teacher who can touch the motivational button and academic future of a student."

Even though Dolence takes little credit for student satisfaction, Dr. Linda Caldwell, director of counseling, gives him full credit.

"The assessment data shows students are very satisfied with all of the student service offices," Caldwell said. "Dr. Dolence is the one responsible for this, and he is to be commended."

Dolence said one of the highlights of his career came in 1972, when the football Lions won the NAIA Division II national championship.

"I didn't have a thing to do with their winning, but it brought a great deal of recognition to the school, and the credit should go to the people who work here and the generosity of the people in Joplin," he said.

Dolence regrets the lack of on-campus facilities and says residential life is not what it could be.

"I regret not being able to find the money to build a nice multi-purpose facility where we could have had courts and students could have had extracurricular activities," he said.

Dolence pointed out the changes within the student body during his 27 years at Southern. He witnessed marches and demonstrations during the 1960s and 1970s, a great interest in Greek organizations in the 1970s and 1980s, and a total disinterest in all college activities this decade.

Dolence said the apathy problem still exists.

"I get concerned with students who don't show respect for their elders, property, or others," he said. "Now there is a lack of respect for standards and the feelings of others."

"When I taught, the teachers ruled the classroom; that's not necessarily so now."

Now that Dolence will have plenty of free time, he hopes to be able to stay on his wife's good side.

"I am going to do whatever Myrna tells me," he said.

He also plans to do some woodworking and spend lots of time with his family and on the golf course.

Dolence says he has a pretty close family, and they have a family dinner every Sunday. He and Myrna have five children and eight grandchildren. □

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

Bodon to move to Port-au-Prince

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD
STAFF WRITER

For many people, retirement provides an opportunity to indulge in pleasurable pastimes, travel, garden, or play golf. But for Dr. Hal Bodon, professor of French and German, retirement will provide an opportunity to serve.

Bodon and his wife, Sonja, will move to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on July 1, just six weeks after his retirement, to begin a two-year mission term with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

"We've been greatly blessed the last 25 years; now it's time to pay back," he said. "We feel good about it because we know how poor the people are, and we know how much we can contribute."

Bodon's primary duties will be to supervise approximately 20 missionaries. He looks forward to getting to know the Haitian people and gaining a renewed appreciation for the many things taken for granted in the United States. Bodon plans to pack a few "small favors" in his bags.

"I plan to take a lot of soccer balls with me," he said. "That would be the dream of their lives. I know when I grew up in Germany, if somebody had

given me a soccer ball, I would never have slept again because I would have been so excited. We used tennis balls, grapefruit, even rags."

Bodon's love for soccer led him to begin the soccer program at Missouri Southern in 1972, one year after he joined the faculty.

He coached the team for 16 seasons, and also started soccer programs at the Joplin Family YMCA and Boys Club. He and his players volunteered their time to coach and officiate the youth programs in order to make it affordable for everyone.

"The greatest satisfaction I got out of my 16 years of coaching was taking the team to Germany, Switzerland, and Austria in 1985," he said. "That was the supreme crowning of those efforts."

"Dr. [Glenn] Dolence and Coach [Jim] Frazier and their wives went with us, so there was a party of 30 people, 15 of whom were players. I made arrangements for games. We played nine games and won six and tied two. The only game we lost was in my

hometown, and I would have gladly traded some of our other victories for that one."

In addition to starting the soccer program, Bodon is also responsible for initiating the Modern Foreign Language Field Day, now in its 22nd year, and the honors convocation, now in its 20th year.

Bodon firmly believes Southern is on the right track with its new international mission. He believes, however, that the College will need to be careful to achieve a balance between the international focus and the local focus. He sees language skills as basic to both.

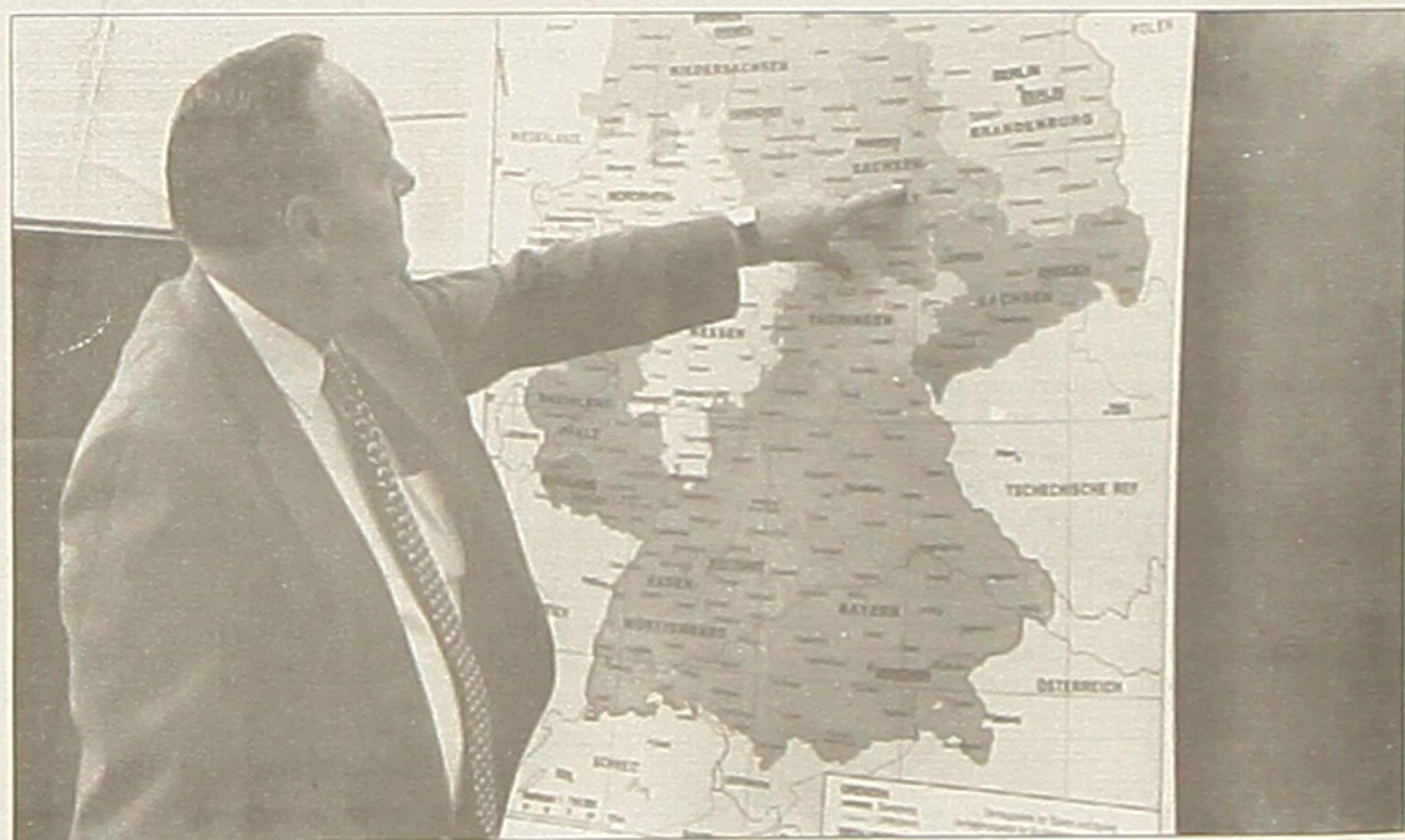
"My vision has always been that to be truly educated, a person needs to learn another language, another culture," he said. "I would like to see every graduate of Missouri Southern have four semesters of foreign language. Certainly in departments such as education and business it should happen."

Dr. Maryann Weber, associate professor of communications, said Bodon has promised to send items from Haiti that will help her teach French culture.

"His colleagues will miss his contribution to the department, especially his sense of humor and his organizational skills that went into the Modern Foreign Language Field Day," she said. □



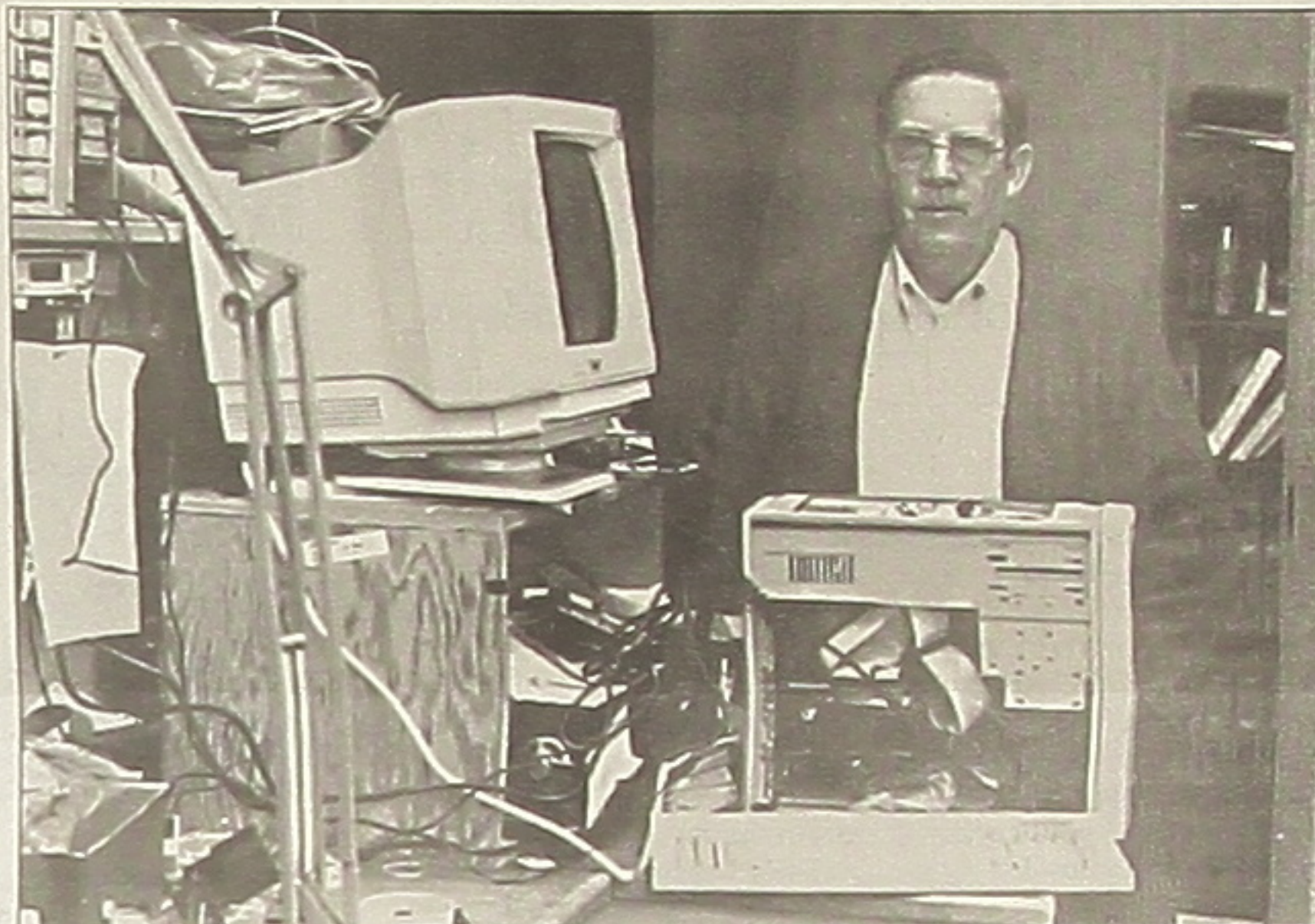
Bodon



CATHERINE ROSS/The Chart

Dr. Hal Bodon, professor of French and German, has already made arrangements to fulfill a two-year mission term in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. He and his wife, Sonja, will leave on July 1.

PHYSICAL PLANT



CATHERINE ROSS/The Chart

Don Mosley, the College's telecommunications coordinator, has seen the College grow to 6,000 students and advance through different technologies. Mosley plans to travel with his wife, Verna.

Mosley ends 23-year vocation

College changes with technology

By KIM GIBSON
STAFF WRITER

In 23 years of service to Missouri Southern, Don Mosley has seen the College grow from a small four-year institution to the state-run institute it is today.

This year will be Mosley's last at Southern as he is retiring from his position as telecommunications coordinator.

"We've grown from about 2,000 students to one time over 6,000," he said. "Technology's changed some things. When I came here the computer was unheard of."

Mosley came to the College as an audio-visual coordinator, servicing such equipment as televisions and projectors. However, as technology advanced, so did his job.

"When I came to work here the only way to communicate at all was by copper wire," he said. "Now you can do it by fiber optics."

When Southern bought a

switchboard for the campus, Mosley had to include servicing the phones into his duties. From there, the addition of computers to the campus gave him his present title of telecommunications coordinator.

Mosley already had a bachelor of education degree from Southwest Missouri State University, but he went on to get an associate's in computer science from Southern after arriving at the College.

"I could see in my own mind that computers were coming," he said.

Mosley can remember when the football team had to play at Junge Stadium in Joplin. He has witnessed the growth of the College by seeing the addition of Hughes Stadium as well as the apartment residence halls, Matthews Hall, Webster Hall, Taylor Hall, and Taylor Auditorium.

Structural additions are not the only things Mosley has seen at Southern throughout the years. In his line of work he has been given the opportunity to work with many interesting people who have visited the College.

In particular, Mosley can

remember working with Lily Tomlin when she came to perform at Southern. At that time Young Gymnasium was the only place for her to do her act. Mosley was in charge of lighting and other technological necessities and worked with the performer for hours.

"She felt that the audience deserved to get the very best, and I didn't get supper till 11 o'clock or so," he said.

Now that he is retiring, Mosley plans to try to catch up on some reading, fishing, and traveling with his wife of 36 years, Verna.

Mary Lou Dove, serials reference librarian, has worked with Mosley for 23 years.

"I've known Don since he came to Missouri Southern, and I appreciate his kindness in dealing with everyone," she said. "He's taken a special interest in helping students and faculty here on campus."

Steve Earney, assistant vice president for information services, has known Mosley since 1981.

"I've told Don many times that we'll have to hire two men to replace him," Earney said. "He's just invaluable to us." □

JUNKINS: Retiring professor leaving with pleasant memories after 33 years at Southern

From Page 4

Stone, Grace Mitchell, James Maupin, David Bingman, and the aforementioned Hunt and Kash.

Our institutional name changed from Joplin Junior College to Jasper County Community College to Missouri Southern College and finally to Missouri Southern State College. This community of scholars has grown dramatically during the last 33 years. They don't make lunch tables big enough to seat our 1996 faculty, so my cur-

rent faculty family is a smaller and more homogeneous unit located in Taylor Hall. I can still listen and learn from some outstanding teachers in the psychology department, but I miss the diversity of sharing an office with a historian like Bob Markman. I miss the office antics of Julie Hughes, Annetta St. Clair, and Tom Holman.

Not many people have a career where monetary reinforcement is delivered for performing activities you enjoy. I still get a bit of a rush when the "fog" finally clears for a student working on a statistics problem. My chest swells a little when someone

stops after class to discuss an issue they had previously never considered. A former student can make my day when they return to MSSC to tell us how well trained they are for a graduate school experience. Almost every day something happens which allows me to take pride in teaching as a profession. I am fortunate indeed to be associated with professional psychologists and marvelous human beings like Betsy, Bob, Brian, Gwen, Roger, and Truman. No one could ask for more support from peers than I have received. I will miss the philosophizing between classes. I will miss solving depart-

mental difficulties through consensus rather than vote. I will miss the wit and humor. I will miss each of you!

One of my greatest fears is that I would unknowingly become an incompetent teacher and damage my students, my department, and Missouri Southern. I don't feel incompetent, but I guess I would be the last to know. My students may be too courteous to mention the fact that I had delivered the same lecture two class periods in a row. My colleagues may want to avoid the discomfort associated with telling an old friend that it is time to retire. If an error is to

be made, err on the side of caution and retire two or three years too early as opposed to one day too late. Hopefully, I have chosen the correct error.

All in all, it has been an enjoyable 33 years at JJC, JCCC, MSC, and MSSC. I leave with a host of pleasant memories. The late Fred Cinotto, after his retirement from Missouri Southern, told me that he did nothing new as a retiree but he did spend more time doing the old things. If he is right, I will hit more golf balls, catch more fish, mow more grass, and spend more time with my grandchildren. □

MOUNTAIN LIONS

Big cats may be on their way back

By J.L. GRIFFIN
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

For nearly a year and a half now, Steve Hardin has been trying to track down the elusive mountain lion.

What makes this Southwest Missouri State University biology student's search different from most tracking efforts is that it is taking place in Missouri.

"I haven't had any confirmed sightings," Hardin said.

Hardin said there are numerous reports made each year to various local and state agencies by citizens claiming to have seen mountain lions, but no photo or video proof exists. Sightings range from urban areas like Kansas City and St. Louis, to the Lake of the Ozarks and Cape Girardeau area, he said.

The last undisputed sighting of a wild mountain lion in Missouri was back in the 1920s, said John Smith, an official from the Department of Conservation's research office.

"An isolated animal here or there

is certainly possible," Smith said. "However, if they were [in Missouri] there would be documented evidence by now."

Smith and Hardin said many leads turn out to be big dogs or other animals. Smith said many people don't realize how big mountain lions are and think they see something that really couldn't be a mountain lion.

"When folks call in with their integrity on the line, we try to let them down easy," Smith said.

Smith did say that it was possible mountain lions could exist in Missouri at this time, but they would probably be cats that were let loose from captivity or escaped.

Hardin said plaster casts have been made of paw prints.

He has gone out several times trying to get proof of the big cats' existence. He said he has used infrared equipment for night vision as well as other instruments.

"I put infrared in areas of high activity based on sightings," Hardin said. "I used tapes of prey, too."

"

I think there's something to the story. Lots of credible people have reported mountain lions. Besides, they used to be here.

Steve Hardin
SMSU biology student

"

The tapes would be used to lure the cats near enough to document their existence.

Dr. John Messick, head of the biology department at Missouri Southern, believes most of the reports of mountain lion sightings are false, but said it is entirely possible the cats, also known as panthers and cougars, could be coming back to Missouri due to the increase in the state's deer population.

"Mountain lions are very elusive," Messick said. "I think there's one

time I saw one in Idaho. They're very secretive. You would need special techniques to study them."

Messick called the possibility of mountain lions in Missouri "remotely possible." He agreed with Smith, saying that they would have probably escaped from captivity.

"I think that animals like the mountain lion are a part of our heritage," Messick said. "It would be nice to have them back in Missouri."

Hardin is conducting the search

for his master's degree work. He said he would continue to collect data up to and after November, when the project is due.

"I think there's something to the story," Hardin said. "Lots of credible people have reported mountain lions. Besides, they used to be here."

Hardin said Missouri would be the logical choice for migration by the cats.

The western half of the United States has a bounty on the beasts, and as population increases the migration process will, too.

"I don't think anybody's trying to pull the wool over someone's eyes," Hardin said about his unsuccessful follow-ups.

Neither Hardin, Smith, nor Messick believe Missourians have anything to fear if indeed mountain lions are back in the state. "There's no reason for alarm," Hardin said.

"Mountain lions, in most cases, aren't going to harm humans," Messick said. □

SOCIAL SERVICES

New Wisconsin law alters welfare mode

Missouri GOP offers similar bill in House

By J.L. GRIFFIN
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Wisconsin has passed legislation that in essence would eliminate welfare in that state in five years.

The Wisconsin Works, or W-2, plan is a four-rung bill placing welfare recipients into the work force by the thousands. Expectations for the new law, if approved by the federal government, would make welfare in Wisconsin obsolete by the year 2000.

The program requires all able-bodied welfare recipients to gain employment within five years.

"Our hope is that the large majority of participants will find employment far sooner than the five-year limit," Wisconsin Rep. John Gard (R-Peshtig) told *The Chart* in a phone interview Wednesday.

Gard said the state is waiting for either block grants from Congress and the White House or waivers from the Clinton administration to begin implementing the program.

"We will have to go to Washington and kiss the ring of the administration to get the flexibility," Gard said.

The waivers are given for an allotted number of years to experiment with programs. Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson, a Republican, has made sweeping social service reforms since he took office in 1987. The number of welfare cases in Wisconsin has dropped from nearly 95,000 to about 65,000. Thompson's supporters credit the decrease to implemented programs such as Learnfare and Bridefare. Learnfare reduces benefits to families with youngsters who skip school. Bridefare encourages teenage mothers to marry by increasing benefits.

Missouri has seen a plethora of welfare reform bills glide through the halls of the Capitol. Even a similar bill sponsored by Rep. Pat Kelley (R-Lee's Summit) has been introduced to the legislature.

House Bill 1416 was similar to W-2, but HB 1416 won't have the same opportunity as its Wisconsin counterpart because the House committee on social services, Medicaid, and the elderly voted not to pass it out of committee.

Kelley believes the plan is compassionate, although opponents find the bill harsh.

"It's for the preservation of families and restores indignities," Rep. Mary Kasten (R-Cape Girardeau) said. "The government has killed the desire of people to work."

Kasten, a co-sponsor of HB 1416, said Wisconsin has done the right thing.

"I like what they've done very much," Kasten said. "It's the essence of what we want to do."

Rep. Bill Boucher (D-Kansas City) was the chair of the committee that killed HB 1416; he called W-2 "insensitive."

"Who can guarantee if a person will be in a stable financial position in five years?" he asked. "No one can guarantee that."

He said the Missouri legislation was killed because Republicans don't understand what it's like to need assistance.

Kasten said many parts of HB 1416 would make significant legislation on their own, and she had thought about dividing the bill.

"We know if kids don't finish high school they will be in a poverty position," she said.

Much of HB 1416 appears as different laws in Wisconsin. Boucher said he would even be for a Learnfare or Bridefare program. □

IS THAT PINE TAR ON YOUR PEN?



Kansas City Royals' vice president George Brett signs a baseball for Senate aide Lee Vardell (far left) as Ed Molotsky and Senate aide Fred Dreiling (far right) look on in the Senate's Pershing Gallery.

SENATE RETIREMENT

Melton leaves with memories

By J.L. GRIFFIN
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The end of an era is coming to a head in the Missouri Senate with Sen. Emory Melton's (R-Cassville) decision to retire from the body.

"It's the last of that generation," Rep. Chuck Surface (R-Joplin) said. "He's the last vestige of the old-time conservatives."

Melton was elected to the Missouri Senate in 1972. Now, at the age of 72, he decided to head back to southwest Missouri full-time. He has said his greatest accomplishment in the Senate may be "just staying here 24 years."

Melton is looked upon with great fondness by almost the entire General Assembly. Republicans and Democrats alike are all admirers of Melton.

Sen. John Schneider (D-Florissant) is the only member of the body who has been in the Senate longer than Melton. He said

Melton may not have been able to pass many bills as a member of the minority party, but "he's sure molded an awful lot of legislation."

Schneider said Melton is likely the most respected member in the statehouse.

"Emory is highly trusted as being intellectually honest, thoughtful, and perceptive," Schneider said. "You don't have an idea of how much the man is respected."

Many lawmakers like Surface and other area representatives like Rep. Gary Burton (R-Joplin), Mark Elliott (R-Webb City), and Gary Marble (R-Neosho) consider Melton not only a friend, but a mentor. House members are not alone as those who look up to the senior Republican senator. Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca) used to be roommates with Melton.

Many will remember Melton for his many debates with the late Sen. Richard Webster (R-Carthage). Surface called the duo "quick on their feet." Stories about the two

are legendary in the Capitol.

James Wolfe, longtime political correspondent for *The Joplin Globe*, said many of his memories of Melton will be of the senator's prowess on the Senate floor. His memories include moments of Melton's infamous dry wit. Melton was the perfect straight-man for Webster.

Wolfe also said it was important to note how well Melton fit into his district.

He said the combination was nearly without problems. Wolfe said Melton would be remembered as an honest man.

"Emory is always more than courteous, he's courtly," Wolfe said.

Burton believes the entire region of southwest Missouri may suffer from the loss of Melton.

"You could always count on Emory to make sure all the appointments for southwest Missouri were taken care of," Burton said.

"Emory leaving is really a passing of an era," Elliott said. □

STATE NEWS BRIEFS

Casino resolution passes resoundingly in Senate

Missouri's Senate resoundingly passed House Concurrent Resolution 11 Wednesday by a vote of 33-1.

The resolution calls for a vote of the people when a land-based casino is proposed. It also calls for the attorney general to use everything in the office's power to prohibit the building of a casino.

The resolution stems from the Eastern Shawnee Indian tribe's attempt to build a casino in Seneca, Mo., that would stretch onto the tribe's land in Oklahoma.

Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca) handled the resolution on the Senate floor. Most of the discussion on the floor was voicing support for the resolution.

"This will show that we are going on record to oppose a casino in Seneca," Singleton said during discussion.

Sen. Danny Staples (D-Eminence) told Singleton that he would vote for the resolution, but that he believed it was unnecessary since it is already state law that a land-based casino is illegal.

The constitution of Missouri states that all casinos must be on the Mississippi and Missouri rivers.

Sen. Bill Kenney (R-Lee's Summit) supported the resolution as a point that family values were at stake by the building of the casino.

"It's not only important to your section of the state," Sen. Emory Melton (R-Cassville) said, "it's important to the entire state."

Singleton agreed with Melton.

"I wanted the body to hear how important this was, not only to the people of my district, but to the state as a whole," Singleton said.

The House passed the resolution early in April. The legislation was drafted by Rep. Gary Marble (R-Neosho).

The one-day vote in the Senate was Sen. Bill Clay Jr. (D-St. Louis). □

Lincoln University cuts 10-12 administrative jobs

Letters were sent to various employees at Lincoln University Wednesday that told them their jobs had been cut as part of a restructuring process at the university.

Dan Diedrich, executive director of university relations, said some 10-12 administrative positions would be eliminated by the process.

"You're going to be seeing administrative cuts at various levels," Diedrich said.

An announcement is expected today as to what jobs will be cut, Diedrich also said.

Employees of Lincoln will be offered jobs at other positions for which they qualify, according to outgoing president Wendell Rayburn. He also said the positions are offered at that job's salary, not at the salary of the employee's current position.

Notice of job eliminations were hand delivered starting Tuesday. □

Two-cent tax deduction passes House debate

Grocery shopping in Missouri may become cheaper if the Senate and governor pass a tax-cut bill axing two cents from the sales tax levied on grocery items.

Republicans had sought, unsuccessfully, to increase the tax deduction to three cents, believing the savings would be greater.

The legislation was called for in order to fall within guidelines set up by the Hancock Amendment, which put a cap on the amount of taxes that the state could collect in a year.

Despite Republican opposition, the bill was approved by a landslide vote of 151-1. Democrats in the House voted to shut off debate about the bill in order to expedite the proceedings.

The bill cuts the tax rate on grocery items from 4.225 percent to 2.225 percent, and takes nearly \$4 million from the state's coffers. □

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Time to bid fond farewell to glorious semester at Capitol

It has been said numerous times this legislative session that the process this year has been somewhat slow and dull. Many in and around the State Capitol have said that this year has been a bust.

I would have to disagree with that, however. It has been neither dull nor a bust. As the pools of perspiration that I have left in my wake as I covered almost every inch of the antiquated building can attest, it has not been slow.

If just for the simple fact that some semi-intelligent amateur journalist can be taught many of the ins and outs of politics and how



J.L. Griffin
Associate Editor

to cover them, then this year has not gone to waste. And if that individual can walk away from the experience with a greater appreciation and a sense of fulfillment, then the year can in no way be deemed a bust.

Just for the record, I loved this semester. I loved this internship.

It would be a great injustice to anyone after me to kill this program. It is not an impossible task to cover Missouri politics in two days—it's a difficult task, but hardly impossible.

As with any large group, there are going to be problems. No one is saying Jefferson City politics is without problems. The incredibly short session schedule, new term limit laws, and bipartisan bickering seem to lead many to believe nothing of importance can be done. Admittedly, I believe much more could be done. The leadership in both Houses is

too concerned with party lines instead of issues. The only thing term limits does is get rid of some very good politicians too soon while getting rid of a minute amount of bad ones. Too much grandstanding and machismo is presented on the floors instead of debate. This is an election year, and maybe that's what has slowed the cycle, but it has given me some great stories and incredible insight into the political mind.

As the Republicans once again try to gain leadership in the Houses and in the executive branch, even a newcomer can see the problems they face.

Look for close races in the secretary of state's race as well as the lieutenant governor's run. State Auditor Margaret Kelly, seeking the Republican bid for governor, can be described only as a sacrificial lamb.

The narrow margin of control held by the

Democrats in the Senate would leave one to believe the Republicans would focus their efforts to gain control of that body, but from the outside it looks like little is being done.

Many people have made this semester an extraordinary experience for me, many times for not being nice and courteous to me because I'm a student journalist.

I would like to thank senators Marvin Singleton and John Schneider for access into their worlds, as well as all the Joplin-area House members: Gary Burton, Chuck Surface, Gary Marble, and Mark Elliott. Many thanks to Twilla Duvall and Donna Mueller for knowing more than most in the Capitol, and many other things too numerous to mention. Also, I'd like to mention Sen. Pete Kinder, who needs a pat on the back or a kick in the pants. Let the voters decide; I know which way I'd vote. □

SOFTBALL

Lady Lions advance in regional play

Four Southern players selected first team all-MIAA

By P. NICHOLAS PARKER
SPORTS EDITOR

With a No. 7 national ranking and a No. 1 regional seed, the Lady Lion softball team is gearing up for the regional tournament May 10-11.

After an early fall into the losers' bracket of the MIAA tournament, Missouri Southern (45-9) quickly rebounded and fought its way to the championship game against Emporia State (32-18).

"We really went about the conference tournament the hardest way we could," head coach Pat Lipira said, "which is to lose the first game and have to come back and win a bunch of games."

Lipira said Friday's 1-0 win over Central Missouri (25-9) would have been an ideal finale.

"The Central Missouri game was a great, great softball game," she said. "Both teams played their hearts out, and as we found out [Tuesday], the loser did knock themselves out of the regional tournament."

Southern went on to beat Missouri Western (23-21) 6-5 in 11 innings. The Lady Lions then shelled out 14 hits against Washburn (29-17) in a 7-1 victory.

Southern was shut out in the championship game, falling to Emporia State 7-0.

Lipira credited execution of fundamentals for her team's success throughout the season.

"The single, the bunt, and another hit to score a run," she said.

"If we don't lay that bunt down, we don't win the game. You've got to be able to put those things back to

And Then There Were Three...

The South Central Region Tournament
May 10-11

1. Missouri Southern	35-9
2. Nebraska-Kearney	44-9
3. Emporia State	32-18

Host-site unknown

By P. NICHOLAS PARKER
SPORTS EDITOR

The site for the 1996 South-Central Region tournament is up in the air, according to Missouri Southern head coach Pat Lipira. Even though the Lady Lions are ranked first in the region, Lipira said the games may not take place at Southern's Lea Kungie Field.

"Our hope is to host the regionals," she said. "We would love to play on our home field in front of our home crowd. But there is a little bit of a kink there."

Lipira said the kink is a NCAA rule that states that if a team is more than 450 miles from the No. 1 seed the host site moves to the second-seeded school. The NCAA hopes to keep the sites in a centrally located area.

No. 2 Nebraska-Kearney falls under that rule. The central-most school is the tourna-

ment's No. 3 seed, Emporia State, currently ranked fourth in the region. The Lady Hornets, who captured the MIAA championship last weekend, advanced into regional play by leapfrogging No. 3 Central Missouri State.

Lipira fears the rule could keep Missouri Southern from hosting the three-team tournament both now and in the future.

"I don't like that rule," she said, "because if they enforce that rule we will never host, because we are on the perimeter of the region."

Lipira believes Southern may get the opportunity to host the tournament because of its national ranking. The Lady Lions are ranked No. 7 in the nation. Emporia State has not been nationally ranked during the course of the season.

Emporia State is also the site for the NCAA Division II national championship tournament. □

back, and that's what we were able to do."

Southern's success showed as sophomore second baseman Jenni

Jimerson, senior designated player Melissa Grider, senior catcher Ginger Daniels, and Trantham were given first-team all-MIAA honors. □



NCAA Division II Top 20

1. WISCONSIN-PARKSIDE	61-4-1
2. CALIFORNIA (PA.)	37-2
3. FLORIDA SOUTHERN	41-4
4. NEBRASKA-OMAHA	39-9
5. U.C. DAVIS	40-10
6. KENNESAW STATE (GA.)	42-7
7. MISSOURI SOUTHERN	45-9
8. HUMBOLDT STATE (CALIF.)	47-11
9. MERRIMACK (MASS.)	26-5
10. BARRY (FLA.)	38-9
11. ASHLAND (OHIO)	26-11
12. CARSON-NEWMAN (TENN.)	33-5
13. BLOOMSBURG (PA.)	32-8
14. MINNESOTA-DELUTH	23-6
15. NEBRASKA-KEARNEY	44-9
16. AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL	27-7
17. PORTLAND STATE (ORE.)	41-16
CENTRAL MISSOURI STATE	38-11
19. COLUMBUS (GA.)	37-11
20. MORNINGSIDE (IA.)	35-13
WAYNE STAE (NEB.)	34-18

Sports SCOPE

'The Flab Five'



The winner is...

As another year draws to a close, *The Chart's* sports writers would like to present the 11th annual LePage-Smith Awards.

Surprise Team of the Year, by a unanimous vote, goes to a team nobody thought could overcome the loss of its head coach and the graduation of one of the best players in Southern history. The Lady Lion basketball team, under the reign of head coach Carrie Kaifes, began the season with 10 straight wins, then moved on to win the post-season MIAA tournament.

The **Lion Team of the Year** award goes to the soccer Lions. The Lions, under new head coach Jim Cook, found a way to hang around the top of the MIAA all season, finishing 3-2 in the conference and 11-6-1 overall. With most of its players returning, the team looks to remain a driving force in the conference next year.

The **Lady Lion Team of the Year** is the softball team. Led by returning All-American pitcher Holly Trantham, the team has again emerged as a national power in the Division II polls. Surprising many critics, the team has proven strength at the plate as well as in the field. Before the conference tournament, Southern led the MIAA in scoring, averaging 6.5 runs per game with a team .344 average. The Lady Lions also led the conference in fielding and pitching.

Next up, our **Lion Newcomer of the Year** is Brad Cornelsen, starting quarterback for the football team. The freshman provided ball control and a winning attitude to Southern and should be a mainstay with the Lions. Rumor has it that head coach Jon Lantz has given Cornelsen a nickname: Excedrin.

The **Lion Athlete of the Year** is senior guard Eddie Reece, who averaged 19.1 points per game. Simply put, Reece was the basketball season.

The **Lady Lion Athlete of the Year** is two-sport star Melissa Grider. Grider helped lead both the basketball and softball teams to the regional tournaments. She has battled a shoulder injury throughout the softball season, but has managed to maintain a .539 batting average.

Leaving the ranks of Missouri Southern athletics is the **Senior of Distinction**, Yancy McKnight. McKnight anchored the offensive line for three seasons, rewriting the manual for strong tackles everywhere.

The **Rodney Dangerfield Award** this year goes to Missouri Southern's women's cross country team. They haven't gotten the respect they deserve, but watch out, they're on the move.

The **Lady Lion Coach of the Year** and the **Most Inspirational Person** awards go to Kaifes. Is that really any surprise, though? Struggling through both personal and team difficulties, Kaifes led her team to a stellar season, proving many pre-season critics (including us) wrong.

Lion Coach of the Year honors fall to Cook. In his first year at the helm, he proved himself a worthy coach among the elite of MIAA soccer. □

TRACK & FIELD

Conference action set to continue

By JASON OWEN
STAFF WRITER

One week into MIAA action, Tom Rutledge found something to crack a smile about.

"Last weekend started conference for us," said Missouri Southern's men's track and field coach. "We went to Emporia State and competed in the decathlon and heptathlon conference meet. We went into it simply hoping to make it through, but we got more than that."

Rutledge said before runner Ben Brainard began the competition, all he wanted him to do was get through the event.

"After he hit the hurdles last time, I knew this weekend was going to be a challenge for him, and after the first day it looked like I was going to be right," he said. "He finished the day in eighth place."

Rutledge said Brainard came out the second day facing the hurdles in the first event.

"But after the race started he ran quite well," he said. "He then went on to compete well the rest of the day."

He set personal records in several events and went on to place fifth overall. He made all-conference giving us points going into next weekend. I was really proud of him."

Southern's women saw a solid performance from senior Mary Adamson, who placed fourth in the heptathlon and finished her final MIAA decathlon with 3,961 points.

Adamson placed second in the long jump Monday with a jump of 16 feet, six-and-one-half inches. She also had a throw of 99 feet, eight inches in the javelin.

Adamson pulled into third place before her entrance into the 800-meter run, but was edged out and finished fourth. □

BASEBALL

Southern falters at conference tourney

By RYAN BRONSON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Warren Turner saw his baseball team fall short this weekend, but the 20-year coach of the Missouri Southern Lions reached yet another milestone—600 wins.

"I've coached a lot of games," Turner said. "There've been a lot of people involved. It's really the program's 600th win, not my 600th win."

Turner, who has a .581 winning percentage since coming to Southern in 1977, said it would have been much more difficult a road had he been somewhere else besides Southern.

"There have been a lot of coaches and a lot of players involved with the program," he said. "It's really a credit to the type of program we have at Missouri Southern."

The Lions (31-22) won a game but lost two last weekend in the MIAA tournament. Southern will finish its season this weekend in the Sooner state against

Oklahoma Friday and a pair against Oklahoma State Sunday and Monday.

Last Friday, Southern beat Northwest Missouri for the fourth time this season, 9-8 in extra innings. Joe Thiel's game-winning single in the bottom of the 10th inning sealed the win. Bryce Darnell hit a one-out, two-run blast in the bottom of the ninth to knot the game at 8 and send the game to extra frames.

In the second round Friday evening, Central Missouri State took advantage of 10 free passes given by Lion pitchers and six Southern errors. The Mules scored eight runs in the fourth and never looked back in a 14-7 win.

On Saturday, the Lions played Northwest in a loser-out game. This time, the Bearcats bore down and pulled off a 10-7 victory. Twelve runs came across in the third inning, seven for the Bearcats.

Senior first baseman Matt Nelson was 3-for-5 with 2 RBIs. Turner praised the efforts of his seniors.

"They've been to the ballpark



Sophomore Stephen Crane dives back to first. Southern ended its 1996 conference season with two losses in the MIAA tournament.

every day and put in a lot of hours. They've contributed to the program. They're good young men, both on and off the field. They are a credit to the program and the College.

"They've won a few, and they've lost a few, but they've won more than they've lost over the years." □

Nick Parker, sports editor, contributed to this article.

Southern Scoreboard

Baseball

Final Standings

	conf	overall
North	W L T	W L T
Central Missouri (18)	16 2 0	35 10 0
Emporia State	12 7 0	27 13 0
Northwest Missouri	9 9 0	26 17 0
Washburn	7 10 0	27 22 0
Missouri Western	7 10 0	21 20 0
Northeast Missouri	2 15 0	10 36 1
South		
Missouri-St. Louis (9)	13 4 0	31 5 0
Missouri Southern (6)	12 6 0	30 20 0
Pittsburg State	11 7 0	23 23 0
Lincoln	6 8 1	18 22 4
Missouri-Rolla	6 11 1	14 23 1
Southwest Baptist	4 16 0	12 40 0



LION STATS

BATTING	
1. Dwayne Walters, P-OF, .452 avg.	
2. Bobby Braeckel, SS, .359 avg.	
3. Bryce Darnell, C, .339 avg.	
4. Brandon Eggleson, 1B, .333 avg.	
5. Stephen Crane, OF, .333 avg.	
RUNS BATTED IN	
1. Bryce Darnell, C, 48	
2. Bobby Braeckel, SS, 34	
Chris Gold, 1B, 34	
7. Stephen Crane, OF, 33	
R.J. Firth, OF, 33	
PITCHING	
1. Kent Long, 3.74 ERA	2 1
2. Dwayne Walters, 4.48 ERA	5 6
3. Travis McGruder, 4.76 ERA	4 2
4. Andy Hill, 4.97 ERA	5 3
5. Shon Burns, 5.32 ERA	2 1

Softball

Standings 4/21

	conf	overall
North	W L T	W L T
Central Missouri (12)	15 1 0	35 9 0
Emporia State	10 6 0	32 18 0
Washburn	9 7 0	29 17 0
Missouri Western	7 9 0	23 21 0
Northwest Missouri	7 9 0	17 23 0
Northeast Missouri	4 12 0	11 21 0
South		
Missouri Southern (6)	15 1 0	45 9 0
Pittsburg State	12 4 0	35 20 0
Missouri-Rolla	6 10 0	27 18 0
Missouri-St. Louis	6 8 0	12 18 0
Missouri Baptist	3 13 0	7 30 0
Lincoln	0 16 0	4 32 0



LADY LION STATS

BATTING	
1. Melissa Grider, UT, .539 avg.	
2. Ginger Daniels, C, .412 avg.	
3. Jenni Jimerson, 2B, .402 avg.	
4. Kim Wilson, OF, .344 avg.	
5. Misty Deaton, OF, .329 avg.	
6. Julie Finley, OF, .319 avg.	
7. Pam Brewer, SS, .317 avg.	
RUNS BATTED IN	
1. Jenni Jimerson, 2B, 40	
2. Ginger Daniels, C, 39	
3. Pamela Brewer, SS, 34	
4. Kim Wilson, OF, 31	
Melissa Grider, UT, 31	
PITCHING	
1. Holly Trantham, 1.22 ERA	27 5
2. Jane Roberts, 2.75 ERA	17 4
3. Teri Mathis, 2.33 ERA	1 0/7

Tornado whips business strip



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

The Citgo convenience store is minus a roof and walls after Sunday morning's weather. The newstands and fountain machines remain standing. Several other stores along the South Range Line strip, including the newly-built Hampton Inn, are suffering damages from the tornado as well.



Tammy Rogers, clerk for Citgo, helps out with the clean-up duties in the after-math of Sunday's tornado.

DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

Local commerce bears brunt of storm

By RICK ROGERS
MANAGING EDITOR

A small, weak tornado that rolled through the South Range Line area at approximately 2:45 a.m. Sunday hung a "We're Closed" sign on the doors of a handful of local businesses.

More than 15 businesses were damaged, and two completely destroyed by the twister, which landed west of Range Line and lifted east of the strip.

“When my roof blew off, that is when I jumped out of bed.”

Richard Nichols
General manager,
Hallmark Best
Western Hotel

”

The two businesses demolished by the severe winds were the Conoco Fastrip convenience store, located at 3347 Range Line, and the Joplin Citgo, two lots south of Fastrip.

Jerry Perry, president and owner of Grace Energy Corporation, which owns all the Fastrip stores, said only the south wall of the building and the gas pump canopy were spared by the tornado.

As of Tuesday, Perry said total damages are estimated at \$500,000, which includes inventory lost. But more importantly, he said no one was present at the store when the twister rolled through because it closes at midnight on weekends.

“We were absolutely lucky that nobody was here when this thing happened,” he said.

Perry said he did not find out about the disaster until pulling off Interstate-44 onto Range Line Sunday afternoon.

“When I came around the building I could see that the canopy was up but the building was gone,” he said. “So then we parked in the lot by the Hampton Inn, and that is when we noticed that the whole building was gone.”

Perry said his corporation will decide whether to rebuild his

store, but all of the store's employees will be reassigned to other locations throughout the area.

“There will be no jobs lost to this incident,” he said. “We have several locations in Joplin, so they all will be taken care of.”

Richard Nichols, general manager of the Hallmark Best Western at 3600 Range Line, said he was aware of the situation soon after impact because he lives in the motel.

“When my roof blew off, that is when I jumped out of bed,” Nichols said. “I lived on the second floor, and during the storm my roof went. I immediately got out of bed and started a room-to-room check. [The tornado] was here, and then it was gone just like that.”

Even with approximately 110 occupants in the motel during the incident, Nichols reported only a handful of injuries.

Nichols said the motel suffered severe roof damage to many parts of the building, forcing it to shut down all services until clean-up and repairs can be completed.

Nichols said he foresees the hotel being closed for approximately a month before rooms could be operational.

Some other businesses that sustained considerable damage due to the tornado were:

■ Continental Auto Mall, 3111 E. 32nd St., sustained roof damage, glass damage, car damage, and building damage equaling \$250,000, according to a sales secretary.

■ Ramada Inn, 3320 Range Line, cannot use 60 of its 171 rooms, and three-fourths of its building's roof sustained damage. The indoor pool was also destroyed.

“I would not even want to give you an estimation on how much it will cost,” said Wanda Ferrier, Ramada general manager.

■ Gus Shaffar Ford, 30th Street and Range Line, reported losing nine overhead garage doors in its service department and sustaining severe roof damage in parts of the building.

All cars in the lot were damaged by wind and flying debris, according to Ric McDade, sales manager.

■ Crown Video, 3111 Range Line, suffered severe damage to the building and its contents. □



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

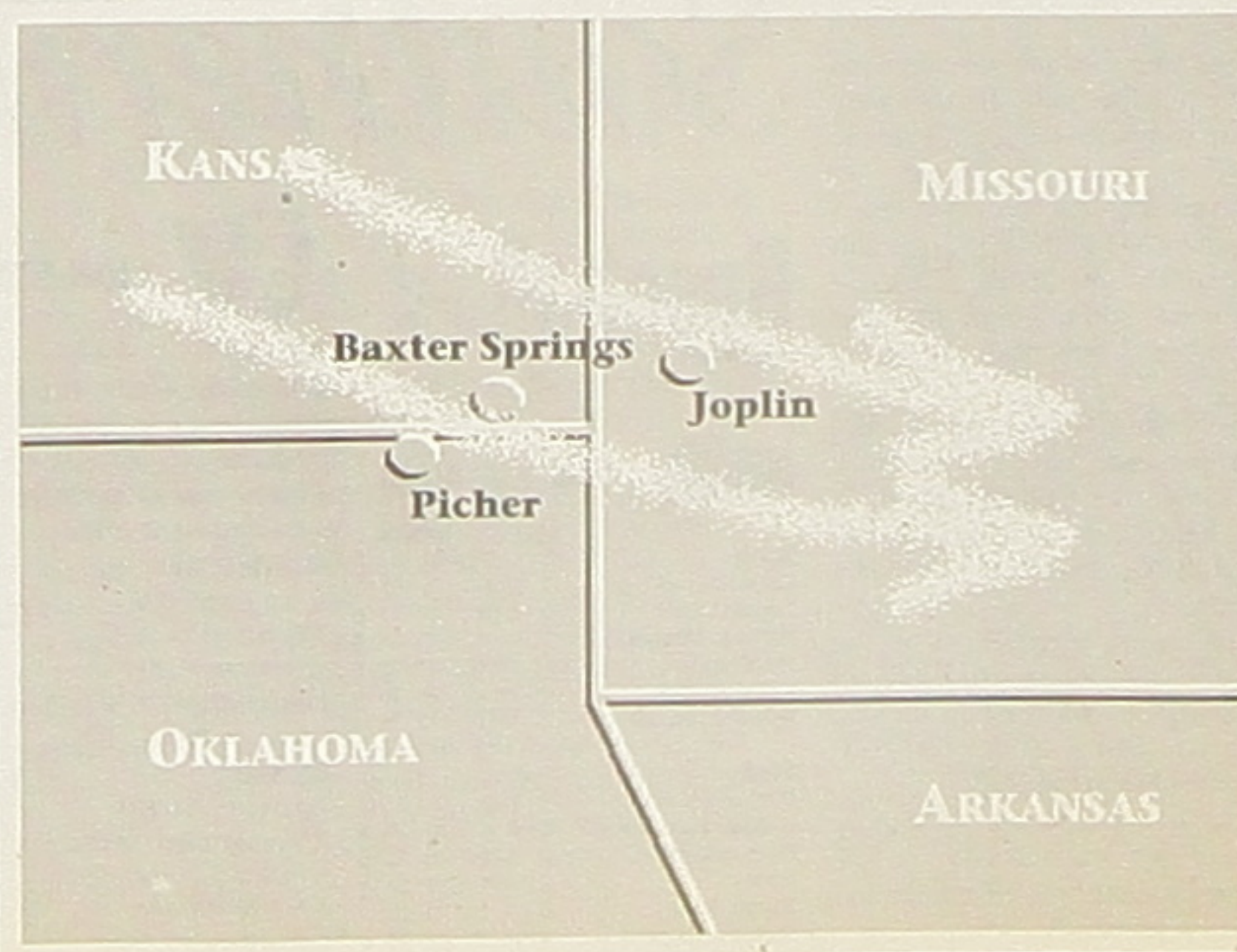
Areas of the surrounding community lost electricity until late Sunday or early Monday. Telephone lines and commercial signs suffered damage.



Jerry Perry, president of Grace Energy Corporation, said his company, which owns the Fastrip stores, has estimated approximately \$500,000 in damages.

JOHN SMITH/The Chart

The Storm's Four-States Path



Thursday, May 2, 1996

THE
CHART

presents Missouri
Southern's

Top 25 Seniors

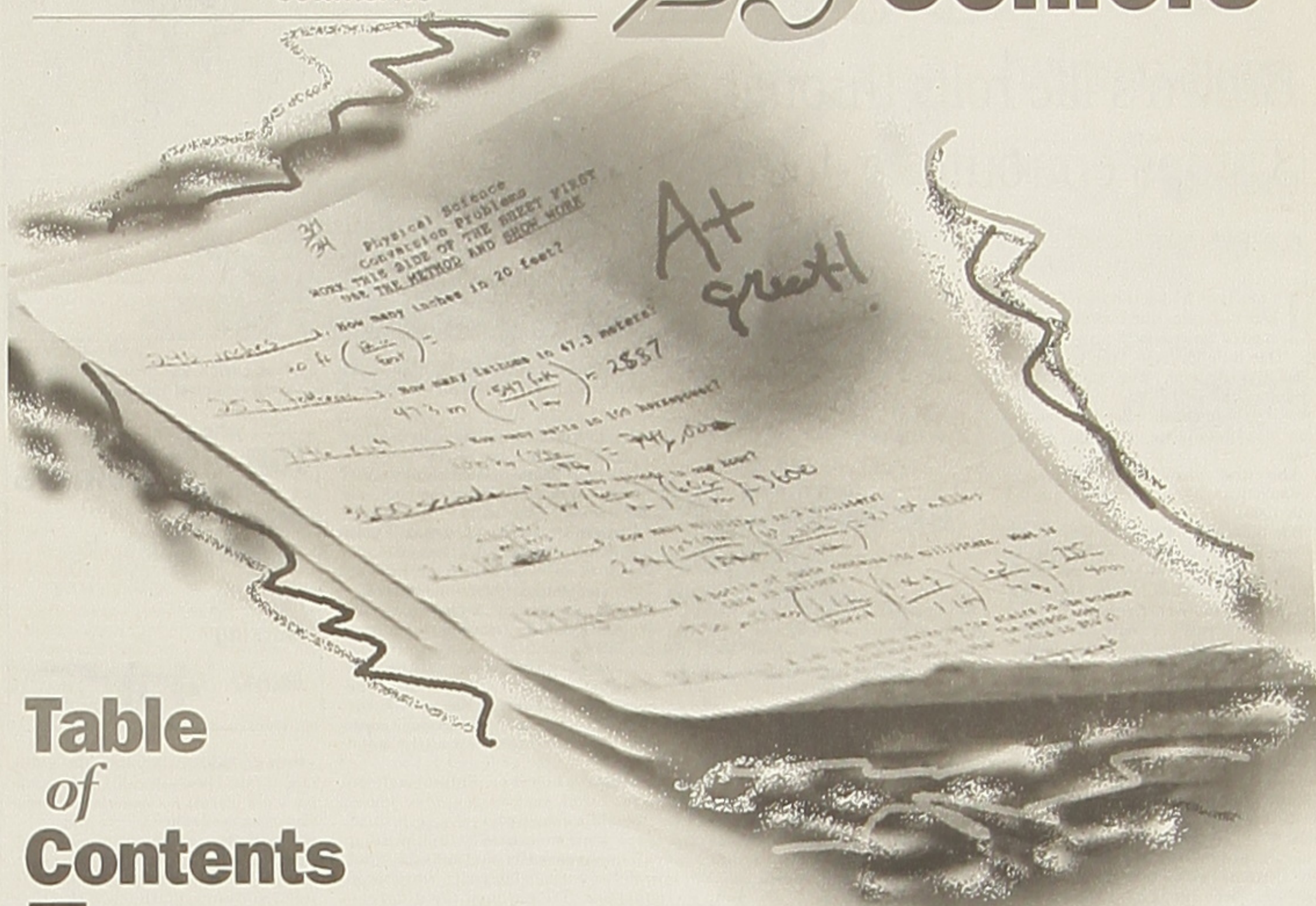


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3.974 - 3.886

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Traveling SOUL

Brown's life rolls through 3 stops en route to Joplin

By JEREMIAH HEISS
CHART REPORTER

It has been a long trip from Connecticut to Joplin, but Joan Brown has enjoyed the journey.

"One little girl said, 'You've done so much,' and I said, 'Well, my dear, I've been around a long time,' but along the way I've been able to enjoy every step of my life—every phase of my life," Brown said.

The first phase for Brown was Connecticut, where she lived until the mid 1960s.

She then went to nursing school and joined the Air Force. That took Brown to London, England, for three years. While in England she married an Air Force officer, and they moved to Germany.

After three years in Germany, Brown and her husband, Alan, moved to Joplin, where he had lived before.

Brown enjoyed the role of wife and mother for a few years and did some volunteer work.

"But I decided it was time to either get into nursing or get out of nursing," she said. "And they had a refresher program at Missouri Southern. Missouri Southern got me back into nursing. It cost me 50 bucks."

This was in 1988, and it meant starting from scratch. Brown had taken a few classes in Riverside, Calif., but "they couldn't even find the credits." So at the age of 46, Brown started her college career.

"I remember sitting and doing my ACTs with all these 18- and 19-year-olds on a rainy day in the summer and thinking, 'This is not going to be good.' But you know, it turned out OK."

OK indeed.

“
Never
lose sight
of your
goals ...
ever.”

Joan Brown
Nursing major

Brown sports a 4.0 grade-point average, works 40 hours a week, and takes 19 hours of classes. In addition, she's a major in the Army Reserve where she serves as chief nurse of the medical unit in Springfield.

Brown has three daughters. Lisa teaches at the University of Missouri-Columbia school of journalism. Heather and Kristi both graduated from Southern in the last three years.

Brown gets a great deal of support from her family and especially her husband, a retired lieutenant colonel.

"He's just wonderful," she said.

Brown has worked at St. John's Regional Medical Center for 18 years. There she has been director of the operating room, cardiovascular operating room, recovery room, G.I. lab, oncology floor, medicine floor, and presently is in the purchasing department.

She does it all by maintaining goals.

"Never lose sight of your goals—ever," Brown said.



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Joan Brown, senior nursing major and 4.0 student, checks the inner ear of Melanie Spalding, junior criminal justice major, at the College's Ummel Technology building.

The instructors at Southern have played a significant role in her success as well.

"Missouri Southern can be really proud of the fact that they value the non-traditional student," she said.

Grace Ayton, assistant professor of nursing, and Dr. Barbara Box, associate professor of nursing, have been Brown's most meaningful, helpful mentors. Her favorite instructor, however, is Dr. William Kumbier, associate professor of English.

"I have such respect for what he does and what he knows," Brown said. "He encouraged [me] and everyone in the class. No matter how average your paper was, he brought out all of the good points."

Kumbier, however, did not believe Brown's work was average.

"Within a couple of weeks, Joan stood out as someone extremely dedicated and extremely enthusiastic," he said. "She wrote an outstanding paper on grocery shopping. She outlined the different stages and methods of shopping in a supermarket."

"Every time I go to Dillons I still think about that paper."

Brown's most challenging class has been Pathophysiology with Dr. Vonnice Prentice, professor of biology.

"He sets an unbelievably high standard, but it's great...I studied in that one."

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: *Joan Brown*

MAJOR: *Nursing*

GPA: *4.0*

Brown graduates from Southern this month, but expects she will continue taking a few classes because she loves the classroom environment.

She regrets not being able to start college earlier.

She said she couldn't afford it at the start, and then got busy with other things. Therefore, her advice to other students is spoken with the voice of experience.

"Work hard at it, but don't feel like you have to do it in four years, really," Brown said.

"You go around one time in life, and you just have fun all the way. That's the way I look at it." □

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'...take it one day at a time'

By ELIZABETH LOVLAND
CAMPUS EDITOR

As if graduating with a 4.0 grade-point average isn't hard enough, Marilyn Thomas has also found success at home raising six children as a single parent.

Thomas, an elementary education major, said her family is important to her success. Her children, whose ages range from 10 to 21, all live at home.

"My children have been very supportive and excited about me going to school," Thomas said. "The older ones proofread my papers and help me study."

Thomas said her parents and sisters have also been encouraging.

"My father keeps the car running, my mother has babysat for me many, many times," she said. "I have a wonderful circle of family and friends who have been very supportive."

Thomas said it would have been difficult to finish school and accomplish everything she wanted without this support.

"I have had some hard times, but never felt like I wanted to quit," she said. "My parents are farmers, and when you're a farmer things have to be done and you don't just quit. A lot of my values and who I am is a product of my heritage from my parents."

Thomas said she looks at school as her job.

"I do the best I can and just take it one day at a time."

Dr. Nancy Smith, head of the education department, said Thomas is an excellent student.

"I can't say enough about her, she's just wonderful," Smith said. "She'll be the kind of teacher that you would love for your children to have."



Marilyn Thomas, a senior elementary education major and mother of six, reads a story while student teaching at Neosho elementary. All of her children live at home.

Becoming a teacher has been somewhat of a dream for Thomas.

"Since the time when I was really young, I always had two things I wanted to be," she said. "One was a mother, and the other was a teacher. So I accomplished one before the other."

"Being a mother, you are a teacher because you are training your children."

Thomas graduated from Ozark Bible Institute with a general bible program degree before she was married in 1973. From 1978 to 1990 she taught music and art at a Christian school.

"That confirmed to me that I loved to teach, and it was a wonderful experience," she said. "But, I knew I needed to become certified."

So to acquire her certification, Thomas began attending classes at Crowder College in Neosho. "Then I stopped teaching at the school," Thomas said. "I

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: Marilyn Thomas

MAJOR: Elementary Education

GPA: 4.0

began home schooling and then going to school pretty much full-time."

After graduating from Crowder in 1993 with an associate's degree, Thomas started attending Missouri Southern. □

Burns hopes experience helps others

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: Janelle Burns

MAJOR: Political Science

GPA: 3.914

By KIKI COFFMAN
STAFF WRITER

Sometimes college students fail to realize they should take advantage of the college experience. They work, go to class, and make few friends in the process.

Janelle Burns does not believe college should be like that.

Burns is a political science major with an agenda. She wants to make a difference.

Since her first year at Missouri Southern, Burns committed herself to "the college experience" and still managed to maintain a 3.914 grade-point average.

"I feel like this campus is my family," she said. "After being involved in so many school activities throughout the years, I've come to know just about everyone."

Burns has participated in Omicron Delta Kappa, Eta Mu Sigma, Phi Eta Sigma, Pi Gamma Mu, Phi Gamma Iota, and Alpha Chi, among others.

She also presided over the Student Health Outreach Team as president for a semester, worked with the Hammons Mentor Program and the Residence Hall Association advisory board, and still found the time to work in a little Model United Nations experience as well.

Burns credits much of her success to the caring attitude of the faculty at Southern.

"I'm lucky because I had so many good professors [at Southern]," she said. "I've really had a good experience with them."

Burns has left a lasting impression with her instructors.

Annetta St. Clair, associate professor of political science, believes Burns has "incredible potential."

"Janelle is a very good student," St. Clair said.

"She knows how to enter a conversation without dominating it." □

Total concentration key for graduate

Native transfers home after semester at UMKC

By BRANDON CAMPBELL
CHART REPORTER

Concentration. Total concentration. That is what Nate Anderson considers his key to success in college.

"I lock myself in a quiet place void of all distractions—no television, no radio, no nothing," he said. "I stay there until I am certain I know and understand all I need to know."

Anderson, a senior psychology major, will graduate in December 1996 with a 3.96 grade-point average. He was scheduled to graduate in May, but has delayed his graduation for a semester.

"Too many times people don't do what it takes to make the A. Many people would rather not study too long and make the C than put in the extra time to make an A," he said. "I always took the added time."

Anderson, a 1991 graduate of Joplin High School, started his college career at the University of Missouri-Kansas City before transferring back home to Southern after one semester.

"My experience at Southern has been good," he said. "I haven't run across any notable stumbling blocks along the way."

"The small class sizes is one of the good things about Southern. It's nice to have teachers who know your name."

Anderson admits he has been fortunate to have a number of good classes as well as good teachers.

Top 25 Seniors

NAME:

Nate Anderson

MAJOR:

Psychology

GPA:

3.96

"I'd have to say my Romantic Period class would have to be my favorite class," he said.

"I had a good teacher in Dr. [Lanny] Ackiss (professor of English and director of Southern's honors program), as well as good classmates."

"I think one of the reasons I liked the class so much was because of its level of difficulty," Anderson said. "It was one of my tougher, if not my toughest, classes I've taken."

But Anderson's opinion of Southern doesn't go without a little criticism.

"My one complaint about Southern is probably the lack of diversity of classes," he said. "It may have been nice to have some off-the-wall classes to choose from."

Anderson, who is currently working in Sears' appliance department, hopes to attend graduate school at the University of Illinois at Chicago after his graduation and from there go on to set up a private practice in clinical psychology.



BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

Nate Anderson, senior psychology major, works at Sears in Joplin. Anderson moved his graduation back to December 1996 and began his college career in Kansas City.

"I really appreciate his broad range of expertise," Ackiss said. "He is a psychology major who can appreciate great literature as well as sell lumber (referring to Anderson's days of working at Lowe's)."

"My advice to other students beginning college is to be aware of what classes you

need to take," Anderson said. "Take an active part and don't rely solely on your advisers. Their plans for you may be different than your plan for you. That was a lesson I had to learn the hard way."

"Just don't give up," he said. "Anyone can be a straight-A student." □

Active career gives Neagle's life gusto

By BETSY WHITE
CHART REPORTER

Life for Rebecca "Becky" Neagle has always been busy. "I've held a job outside of school since I was in high school," said Neagle, an English education major. "I've done everything from fast food to Cloth World."

But staying active is one of the things that she attributes to her success in school. With a 3.93 grade-point average, she is involved in Sigma Tau Delta Pi and has been inducted into Alpha Chi, which she thinks is one of her greatest achievements.

"Not only do you have to have good grades, but you also have to have recommendations from your professors," Neagle said. "Becky is one of the finest, most responsible students I've ever had," said Dr. Doris Walters, professor of English.

Neagle came to Missouri Southern straight out of high school. She completed three semesters before getting married and

moving to Washington state, transferring to Pacific Lutheran University. There, after her classes, she would go on to her first job of the day as a nanny. After that, she would go to a day care where she worked as a teacher's aide.

"Even though PLU is a private university, Southern and PLU have a lot in common," she said. "I've found that they have the same caliber of professors, despite the \$6,000 or \$7,000 difference in tuition."

After Neagle and her husband divorced, she moved back to Missouri to be close to family. She has continued the rest of her education at Southern.

Neagle is now counting down the days until graduation, focusing her attention on her student teaching at Carthage Senior High School. She believes her education has helped her in every aspect of the real classroom experience. Her favorite class was Literature for Adolescents.

"It actually had to do with teaching young adult literature," Neagle said. "It seemed

Top 25 Seniors

NAME:

Rebecca Neagle

MAJOR:

English Education

GPA:

3.93

everyday I would go in with a new idea of a novel or story. But there are some things you just can't be taught. No one could prepare me for the time when I smelled alcohol on a student's breath at 8:30 in the morning. What do you do in that situation?" □



BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

Rebecca Neagle, senior English education major, said active life sparks her success.

Early planning paves Rhoades' road

By JEREMIAH HEISS
CHART REPORTER

First, decide on something you would like to accomplish. Second, do it. That was the plan Kelli Rhoades used to get where she is now.

"I've always focused on my good grades," said Rhoades, an accounting major. "I was valedictorian of my high school class. My brother graduated from [Missouri Southern] the same year I graduated from high school, and there were maybe two people who stood up with a 4.0. I thought, 'I want to do that.' So that was kind of my goal."

Rhoades, who commutes from Riverton, Kan., graduates from Southern in July with a 4.0 grade-point average.

"I came here originally because I've always had a job in Joplin," she said. "I couldn't see myself driving all the way to Pittsburg and then coming all the way over here. That's why I chose Missouri Southern. Plus, my brother graduated from here and he liked it."

Rhoades has grown to like Southern as well. She most appreciates the friendly environment.

"I pretty much like all of my professors here," she said. "They're really friendly, and you can always go to them for help. They know you by name."

The classes Rhoades liked best were her business courses.

Carolyn Cunningham, assistant professor of business, and Dr. Beverly Block, professor of business, are her favorite instructors.

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: Kelli Rhoades

MAJOR: Accounting

GPA: 4.0

"There are two things I remember most about Kelli," Cunningham said. "She's a hard worker and she has a very pleasant personality. I could always count on her to get things done when they needed to be done."

Block said, "Kelli Rhoades is an excellent student...very hard working. She gets along with the other students very well and is very helpful."

Rhoades started out wanting to be a teacher. That was when she took her toughest class, Zoological Survey.

"I took it when I was a biology and chemistry major and it was required," Rhoades said. "We had to memorize tons of data that I could never see being useful because I was going to be a teacher. It was just overwhelming. So I switched."

Paying out-of-state tuition is what Rhoades likes least about Southern. She also dislikes the drive from Riverton.

"It's kind of a hassle to drive back and

forth," she said. "It takes at least 30 minutes, maybe 45. I get lots of tickets because of the drive."

Rhoades has also taken a few extension courses through Labette Community College in Parsons, Kan.

Besides her brother, Rhoades' parents have played a large role in her success at Southern.

"Mom and Dad are very good at helping me focus on my studies," she said. "They help me study. They just go out of their way."

In her spare time, Rhoades said she likes to play sports and do some hiking. Her only regret is getting out of the education field.

"I miss that, but I don't miss the biology and chemistry part," she said.

If she had stayed with her plans of being a teacher, Rhoades said she would have gone into business education.

Rhoades' favorite job was working at the Crown Cinema 6. She got to meet several interesting people there. She presently works for Tri-State Motor Transit, but is not sure how long she will stay there after graduation.

"I'm going to take my CPA exam, and hopefully pass it," she said. "I don't know if I'm going to stay in a corporation or if I'm going to go to a CPA firm. I haven't really decided. But my CPA is the next step."

Rhoades said everyone has been asking her what her plans are once she graduates.

"I'm going to take a vacation," she said. "I deserve it." □



BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

Accounting major Kelli Rhoades believes planning for the future helps students focus on goals. Rhoades will graduate from college with a 4.0 GPA.

□ It took Trisha Steinbrecher three years to compile 150 hours of college credit, now she has the rest of her life to put them to use.

Education major hopes to go to work in Kansas City

By SHANDY MCBRIDE
CHART REPORTER

Her motivation and determination drove her to graduate from college in three years. Steinbrecher, 21, will graduate from Missouri Southern in May. Her grade-point average through the fall semester was 3.89.

"I took 150 hours in three years," said Trisha Steinbrecher, elementary education/special education major. "I wanted the challenge of getting through fast."

"I'm real motivated and determined to do the best I can. My friends and family stand behind me with confi-

Steinbrecher has been a member of Council for Exceptional Children, Kappa Delta Pi, the honors program, Phi Eta Sigma, Missouri Student Teacher's Association, LDA, and Residence Hall Association.

Steinbrecher said she enjoys the small class sizes at Southern.

"The professors know your name," she said, "and they are there for you."

"My favorite classes were the education method classes. They were really neat."

Steinbrecher said her favorite instructors were Dr. Vikki Spencer and Dr. David McConnell, associate professors of education.

"They were my most challenging professors," she said, "but I learned a lot in their classes."

"Trisha is especially motivated," Spencer said. "It's amazing the amount that she can take."

The one thing Steinbrecher doesn't like about Southern is the social atmosphere.

"There isn't much of a social life," she said. "It seems like everyone commutes." Steinbrecher student taught at Jenks public schools near Tulsa (her hometown). There she

“My favorite classes were the education method classes.”

Trisha Steinbrecher
Elementary education major

taught third through fifth and seventh through eighth grades as well as some special education learning classes.

After graduation, Steinbrecher said she hopes to get a job and go to graduate school within a year.

This summer she plans to get married to her fiancé, John DeVille, also from Tulsa. They will live in Kansas City. □

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: Trisha Steinbrecher
MAJOR: Elementary Education
GPA: 3.89

Law challenges Taylor

Senior believes military prepped him for his future endeavors

By SCOTT GORDON
CHART REPORTER

From military and college to law enforcement and law school, Brice Taylor knows how to challenge himself.

Taylor, 24, is one of Missouri Southern's top 25 seniors with a 3.886 grade-point average.

Taylor graduated from Joplin High School with decent grades, he said. From there he went into the Army. He worked for an infantry division and was stationed in Hawaii. For a while he even went to the Philippines.

"I think going to the military before coming to college has really helped me," Taylor said. He went on to add that "knowing what I wanted to do with my life has also been very helpful."

Taylor's favorite classes were "anything taught by Dr. [Jimmie] Williams (associate professor of law enforcement)."

"I liked Dr. Williams because he was laid back, but he always taught you something."

Williams had a few things to say about Taylor.

"Brice Taylor is a really good guy," he said. "It was a pleasure to have him in my class, because I knew if I gave him an assignment, it would be done and done correctly."

As graduation approaches, Taylor said he believes he is suffering from a form of "senioritis."

"It's not that I don't care anymore, it's just that I have so much to do between school work and trying to get into law school," he said.

Taylor recently took the LSAT, a legal entrance exam, and thought he did OK but not great.

He plans to get out of the area when he graduates and going where he can get work.

He plans to do regular police work for awhile, but says the U. S. Marshals "would be nice."

For his personal enjoyment, Taylor hunts and fishes and studies karate and aikido.

He has won first place in area karate tournaments after training many years.

"If I could do anything differently, I think that I would get more involved with campus activities," Taylor said.

As for the secret to his success, he says: "Know what you want to do and focus. Don't jerk around your freshman and sophomore years." □

Top 25 Seniors

NAME:

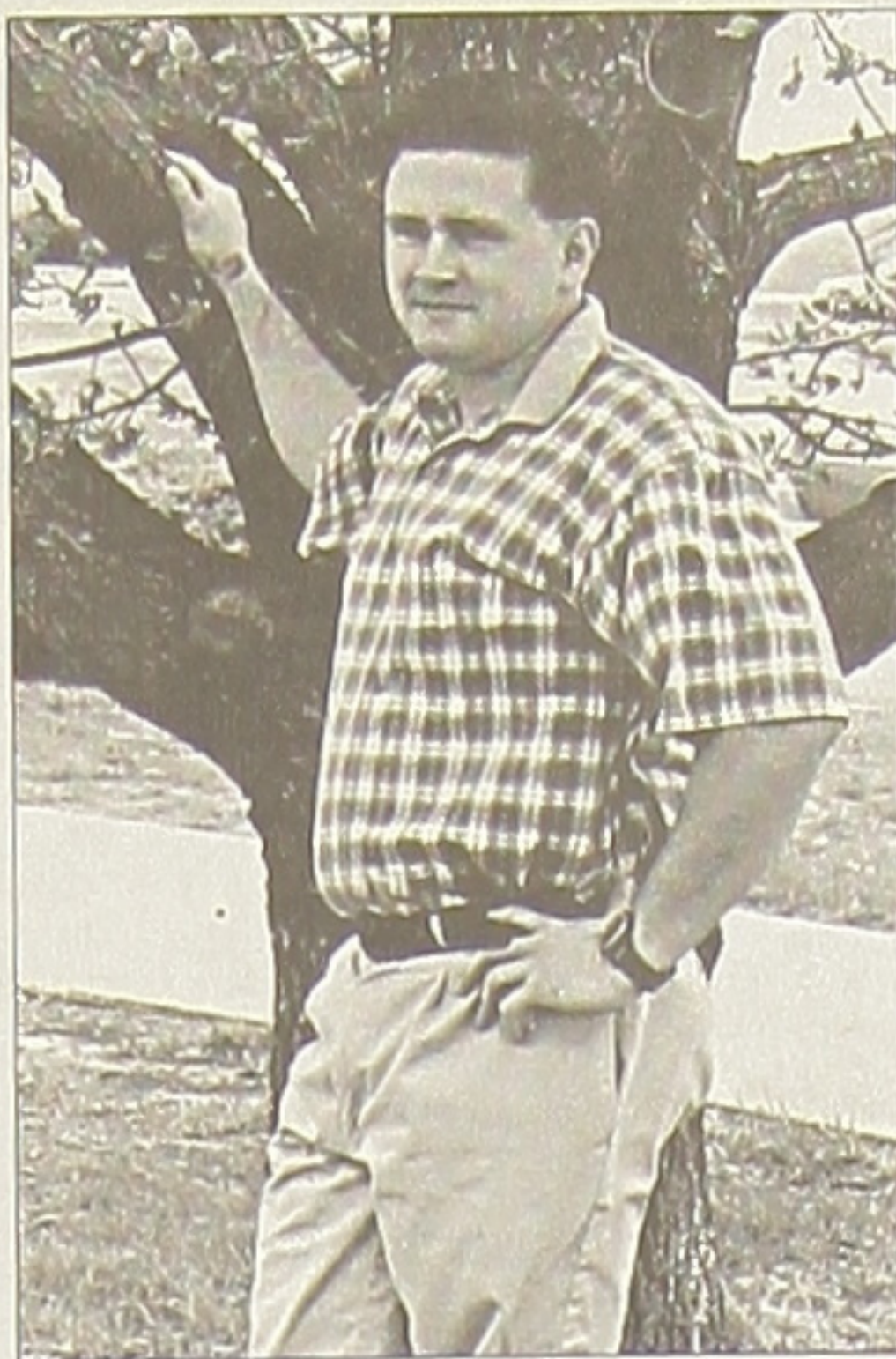
Brice Taylor

MAJOR:

Criminal Justice

GPA:

3.886



BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

Criminal Justice major Brice Taylor plans to move from the area after graduation. His ideal job is U.S. Marshall.

Nursing student ready for 'emotional' career

By KIM GIBSON
CHART REPORTER

Love for learning is what motivated senior nursing major Mary Zustiak to soar to a 4.0 grade-point average.

Zustiak said her success wasn't just presented to her. She simply enjoyed learning enough to work diligently.

"I didn't go into school working for a 4.0," Zustiak said.

"I just like to get my stuff done, I like to do a good job, and I enjoy school."

At the age of 35, Zustiak started college after attending Missouri Southern's Return to Learn program. She scored high enough on the ACT to qualify for the honors program.

After two years of working toward a degree in biology, the non-traditional student switched to a more versatile major in nursing.

"There's a wide variety of directions you can go," she said, "and it's a very portable kind of a job because my husband's job comes first."

Zustiak works as a nurse for hospice, a program designed to cater to the needs of the terminally ill and their families. She said even after graduation she plans to continue her involvement in hospice.

As a hospice nurse, Zustiak listens to the concerns of the dying and their survivors, answers medical questions, and deals with the spiritual side as well.

"You help one person die as you help everybody else to live, and it's a real emotional kind of an involvement," she said.

"I went into it because I wanted something that was out of the hospital proper."

Zustiak's family consists of her husband and three sons. She has been married to her high school sweetheart, Gary, for 25 years. Her children are Joshua, 24; Aaron, 21; and Caleb, 19.

Her family is very important to her. She said she is "as proud of having three children as any school accomplishments."

"I would remember her as a non-traditional student with traditional American values of hard work and pursuit of excellence," said Dr. Ray Malzahn, former dean of arts and sciences at Southern.

Balancing devotion to her family and dedication to school has been an obstacle. She and her husband took turns attending school to ensure someone was home with the children. Zustiak took time off from her own schooling while her husband worked

for his doctorate in family therapy. She was sometimes forced to miss events such as her children's soccer games and plays to pursue her education. Zustiak can remember missing her son's leading role in a play.

"I made his costume and I helped him with his lines, and they had the orientation training seminar the night of the program. I got there as the applause was going on," she said. "I missed the whole thing."

Top 25 Seniors

NAME:

Mary Zustiak

MAJOR:

Nursing

GPA:

4.0



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Graduating nursing major Mary Zustiak returned to college after participating in Missouri Southern's Return to Learn

“The secret to my success is simply going to school and doing what is asked of me.”

Numbers become Stout's love

By SHANDY MCBRIDE
CHART REPORTER

Choosing a major she loves made Kimberly Stout, accounting major, successful. Stout's grade-point average at the end of the fall semester was 3.973.

"The secret to my success is simply going to school regularly and doing what is asked of me," she said.

She said her favorite classes were Intermediate Accounting I, II, and III, and her toughest class was history.

"It's the only B I have," she said. "It's never been my favorite subject."

"My favorite instructor is Dr. [James] Shaver (professor of business)," Stout said, "because he made the biggest impact. Dr. Shaver pushes you to do your best and tests your abilities. He gets involved with the students and helps with their future plans."

Shaver had some good comments about Stout as well.

"Kim is obviously one of the best students we've had in a

long time," he said. "She studies to learn, not just to pass a test."

Stout is a member of the Accounting Club and Phi Eta Sigma.

"A couple of the things I like most about Missouri Southern are the small class sizes and the teacher availability," she said.

Stout said she had trouble finding something she disliked about Southern, but "during my freshman and sophomore years, when it came time to enroll, there was always at least one class that I wanted that was already full."

Stout is presently working as a part-time accounting clerk at Carmar Group Inc. in Carthage. She has various duties, including the payroll and issuing financial statements. She plans to continue there after graduation, when she will become a full-time accountant.

Stout is engaged to Scott Fullerton, and they have July wedding plans.

"My advice to students," she said, "is to find a major you're interested in, go to school, and do the work that's expected." □

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: Kimberly Stout

MAJOR: Accounting

GPA: 3.973



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Accounting major Kimberly Stout spends a relaxing moment outside studying for her degree. She said history was her toughest class; she got her only B.

Science double major plans to attend medical school

By HEATHER DeMIER
CHART REPORTER

With classes like Zoological Survey and Elementary College Physics I starting off his freshman year, Chad Wagoner proved he was ready to work.

"I have always taken the time and realized I was here for grades first," he said.

Wagoner, majoring in biology and chemistry, maintains a 4.0 grade-point average and is excited to be accepted to the University of Missouri Medical School in Columbia.

"I'm still in a state of denial," Wag-

oner said. "I can't believe it."

Wagoner is involved in many organizations, such as the fraternity Kappa Alpha Order, where he has held several offices. He was inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership honor society.

During the summer of 1994, Wagoner participated in the Oxford Summer Study Program.

Immunology, Wagoner's favorite class, was also taught by his most admired instructor, Dr. Gerald Schlink, associate professor of biology.

"Chad's the most industrious student I've ever met," Schlink said. "He's a student that exemplifies what the curriculum is all about and combines extra-curricular activities with his academic studies."

Histology, the study of tissues, was Wagoner's toughest class.

"Everything in that class dealt with things at a microscopic level," he said. "The lab tests consisted of 150 slides with several items to identify in each slide."

"It's a lot of memorization, a lot of notes for each test—a lot of work."

Wagoner says the class has paid off because he can now take a microscope slide and recognize almost any tissue.

"Histology is one of the classes you have your first year of med school," he said. "Most of our med students say that was the class that helped them the most."

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: Chad Wagoner

MAJOR: Biology & Chemistry

GPA: 4.0



BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

With graduation on the horizon for senior Chad Wagoner, his busy days of double majoring in biology and chemistry are almost behind him. He holds a 4.0 GPA.

because of how intensive it is here."

Volunteering 300 hours at McCune-Brooks Hospital's emergency room was something Wagoner really enjoyed because of the endless variety.

"There was never a dull moment," he said. "Whether there were children with sore throats, patients complaining of back pain, or a violent car accident, the pace was always busy."

"One time, I saw my own cousin come in," he said. "I didn't recognize him at first."

His cousin had been in a car accident and was "cut up pretty bad."

Wagoner's future plans are to work in an emergency trauma center, then eventually settle down with a family physician.

SISTER ACT

□ Sisters and top 25 graduating seniors Karen Jackson (left) and Vickie Crowder motivate each other toward academic success. They will be the first to graduate from college in their family.



Tight family helps revive Jackson's endeavors

**Elementary education major
in five of six education clubs**

By HEATHER DEMIER
CHART REPORTER

A supportive husband and an encouraging sister have assisted Karen Jackson in achieving her 3.959 grade-point average. Jackson, an elementary education major with an emphasis in reading, says her sister, Vickie Crowder, who is also a top 25 graduating senior, is responsible for her returning to school.

"We've been through it together, and we've supported each other along the way," Jackson said. "If it hadn't been for her, I probably wouldn't have gone back."

She also credits a

"We've been through it together, and we've supported each other along the way. If it hadn't been for [Vickie], I probably wouldn't have gone back [to school]."

Karen Jackson
Elementary education major

great deal to her husband, John, who helps take care of their 5-year-old daughter, Felicia. She and her husband have been married for six years.

"Without my husband there to help take care of my daughter, there's no way I could do it," she said.

Jackson's hobbies include spending time with her family and motorcycle riding.

Along with her busy schedule, Jackson is involved in many extracurricular activities. She is in five of

the six education organizations: the International Reading Association, the Student Missouri State Teacher's Association, the Council for Exceptional Children, and World Issues for Students by Educators. And she is historian for Kappa Delta Phi, an honor society for education.

Jackson is also on the Executive Council, where all of the officers from different organizations discuss what's happening on campus. She was chairperson for Homecoming, inducted into Alpha Chi, and named outstanding student in elementary education.

Before attending Missouri Southern, Jackson graduated from Northeastern Oklahoma A&M with an associate in arts degree.

Her favorite class at Southern was Teaching Social Studies in Elementary School, taught by Dr. Vikki Spencer, associate professor of education.

"Dr. Spencer made it really fun, and she was alive," Jackson said. "She loves that subject, and she was so alive that I felt like I learned a lot."

"Karen is an excellent student," Spencer said. "She is very concerned about doing the best job she possibly can for her students. She is always involved and the first to volunteer."

Jackson has this advice for students: "Find your goal, set your eyes on that goal, and get to it."

She attributes her success to "a good support base and a good family structure that supports me in my endeavors."

Top 25 Seniors

NAME:
Karen Jackson

MAJOR:
Elementary Education

GPA: **3.959**

Crowder has willingness to learn

Elementary education major
'represents solid qualities'

By JENNIFER BAXLEY
CHART REPORTER

Some siblings pray for the day to come when they depart for college and gain independence from each other, but not Vickie Crowder.

Crowder has a special relationship with her sister, Karen Jackson, who has been by her side throughout all of her college years. Both Crowder and Jackson started at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M at the same time, each earning associate degrees. And now, after enduring the education department together, they will be appearing in cap and gown as they graduate on the same day this month from Missouri Southern, both in the top 25 of their graduating class.

"It has been wonderful sharing this with her," Crowder said. "She is the wind beneath my wings.

She's been right there when I couldn't take it anymore. My stumbling blocks have been few because of her."

Crowder is an elementary education major with a 3.954 grade-point average. She and her husband live in Grove, Okla., and she commutes approximately one hour each way to and from Southern.

Crowder, who plans to teach special education, will begin proceedings in the fall to get a certificate in emotionally disturbed children to go along with her education degree. From there she plans to get her master's degree in the next five years from an undetermined college in Oklahoma. After that, she said she might go on to get her doctorate.

While at Southern, Crowder participated in several extracurricular activities and organizations. She was the secretary for Kappa Delta Phi for a year and a half. She also joined Omicron Delta Kappa and Sigma Alpha Chi this semester.

Crowder was a member of the Student Missouri State Teacher's Association for two years. She held the office of vice president for the Council for Exceptional Children and was a member for two years. She was a member of the Education Executive Council for one year and the International Reading Association for two years.

Crowder worked for the assistant certification officer, Kaye Abight, but had to quit when she began her student teaching this semester. Crowder said Abight is a part of some of her fondest memories at Southern. She said Abight has a vast amount of knowledge and respect for people and believes that she has gained quite a bit from her. Abight is also quite fond of Crowder.

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: Vickie Crowder

MAJOR: Elementary Education

GPA: 3.954

"She's what I would call self-motivated," Abight said. "She has work-ethic skills that will make her a very fine teacher. I think she will be one of those teachers that we hope everyone will become."

Crowder defines her secret to success as a willingness to want to learn.

She believes the biggest thing one has to have is an open mind about everything teachers introduce. Other attributing factors include her family and her husband of six years.

"My husband has been wonderful," she said. "There is a lot that I couldn't have done without him."

Another positive influence in Crowder's life has been Dr. Ralph Leverett, associate professor of education. Crowder has only good things to say about him and refers to him as one of her favorite instructors. Leverett, too, has a great respect for Crowder.

"I think she represents solid qualities, both academically and personally, that will make her an excellent teacher," Leverett said. "I was pleased to have had her in class."

Crowder's favorite class at Southern was Introduction to Special Education, taught by Dr. Doreen Vicitez, assistant professor of education. Crowder took this class her first semester at Southern and said Vicitez made the entire class feel like a family.

"She's a very good instructor and made us feel like we belonged," she said.

Crowder lists Vicitez as her favorite instructor because she took the time to care about the students and their learning.

"She always asked if everyone understood, and if we didn't she would take the time to go over the material with you," Crowder said.

Crowder says she will miss the people most when she graduates from Southern.

"We all felt like we were a family because we spent so much time together," she said.

Advice Crowder offers to students involves something which irritates her.

"One of my pet peeves is when I'm sitting in class and hear people complain 'I don't know why I have to take this,'" she said. "They chose to be there and it will help them out there, whether they know it or not. You should find something positive about it. Learn everything you can, even if you don't think you need it."

After graduation, Crowder plans to stay in the Oklahoma area. She, along with her sister, will hold the title of being the first to graduate from college in her family. □

TOP MAJORS IN THE TOP 25

(With number of 4.0 students)

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION	5
4.0 STUDENTS	1
NURSING	3
4.0 STUDENTS	2
ACCOUNTING	3
4.0 STUDENTS	2
BIOLOGY	3
4.0 STUDENTS	1
ART	2
4.0 STUDENTS	1
GENERAL BUSINESS	1
4.0 STUDENTS	1
COMMUNICATIONS	1
4.0 STUDENTS	1
PSYCHOLOGY	1
4.0 STUDENTS	0
ENGLISH EDUCATION	1
4.0 STUDENTS	0
THEATRE	1
4.0 STUDENTS	0
MATHEMATICS EDUCATION	1
4.0 STUDENTS	0
POLITICAL SCIENCE	1
4.0 STUDENTS	0
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1
4.0 STUDENTS	0
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	1
4.0 STUDENTS	0

*It has been
wonderful sharing
this with [Karen].
She is the wind
beneath my wings.
She's been right
there when I
couldn't take it
anymore.*

Vickie Crowder
Elementary education
major

For the love of ART

Reed manages time to earn second degree

By JENNIFER RABOLD
CHART REPORTER

Time management is the key to a successful college career, according to Debora Reed, a studio art major.

Reed gained experience in time management when she got her first bachelor's degree in nursing at the University of Nebraska and when she pursued her second degree while raising three children and keeping her family unit going.

She has also participated in local art organizations, such as the Joplin Art Guild and Carthage's artCentral.

Despite all of her activities, Reed still maintains a 4.0 grade-point average.

Jon Fowler, professor of art, has been Reed's instructor for Ceramics, Sculpture, and Basic Form.

"She is bright, articulate, and puts in a lot of long hours," Fowler said. "We would like to see more of her kind."

After graduation, Reed plans to broaden her career.

"I have art work in a couple of gal-

Top 25 Seniors

NAME:

Debora Reed

MAJOR:

Art

GPA:

4.0

eries now," she said.

Reed is showing her creations at the Gabolt Gallery as well as the Spiva Art Gallery.

Reed says she will stay in Joplin and put more of her work into other galleries and do more consignment work.

Reed said she liked the atmosphere and sense of community the campus provides.

"The University of Nebraska was pretty tough," she said. "I think it was due to it being a larger school and the B.A. I chose there."

This time around, Reed said it's been a great joy.

"I love art, and it's easy because I love it," she said.

Reed said if she could do it all over again, she would have gotten her art degree in the first place.

But she was worried about paying the bills.

She advises students to learn how to manage their time.

"If you can manage your time correctly, you can be very successful," she said. □



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Senior studio art major Debora Reed has had some of her work on display at the Spiva Art Gallery and the Gabolt Gallery. Reed is also a participant in the Joplin Art Guild.



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Suzanne Wood is one of nine seniors graduating with a 4.0 grade-point average.

Area, program draw Wood to Southern

By BETSY WHITE
CHART REPORTER

Success isn't something new to Suzanne Wood. "I was salutatorian of my high school class in 1992," she said.

And in July, she will be graduating from Missouri Southern with a 4.0 grade-point average and a degree in accounting.

"I came to Southern because I liked the accounting program, the area, and the town," she said. "Even though most think of Southern as a small school, it was a big adjustment for me, coming from a high school with only 19 in my class."

Wood grew up in Drexel, a small town of 1,000 outside of Kansas City.

"I had a good life growing up, with both an older brother and sister and two parents who

really supported me," she said. "I remember when I had to give a speech at my graduation ceremony, and I was very nervous. My family was right there the whole time. It made it a little easier."

Wood didn't always see herself as an accounting major. Her freshman year was a chance for her to explore all of her different options.

"I knew that I really liked math and that I was pretty good at it, but at the time I didn't know what the accounting program had to offer," she said. "At first I thought I wanted to go into education and teach."

But Carolyn Cunningham, assistant professor of accounting, changed all that.

"Ms. Cunningham has a nice personality," she said. "She got me interested and enthused about accounting."

Top 25 Seniors

NAME:

Suzanne Wood

MAJOR:

Accounting

GPA:

4.0

"Suzanne is a hard-working girl," Cunningham said. "I wish I had a lot more students like her." □

Parents motivate Claxton

By BRANDON CAMPBELL
CHART REPORTER

Supportive parents are what Jennifer Claxton attributes to her success in college. "They have always been a real encouragement to me," Claxton said. "I was motivated to do good not only for myself but for them as well."

Claxton, a biology major, will graduate this spring with a 3.89 overall grade-point average.

Her future plans? Well, let's say they are still in limbo.

"I may go on to graduate school, but I am not for certain," she said. "If not I'll probably enter the working field, possibly in the area of marine biology, maybe working at a zoo or in a state park."

Claxton, a 1992 graduate of Joplin High School, spent last summer volunteering at the Dickinson Park Zoo in Springfield.

"It was a quite humbling experience," she said. "I had to do a lot of nasty stuff, but all in all it was a lot of fun."

Claxton's four years at Missouri Southern have been good ones.

"The thing that impressed me the most about Southern is probably the size of the classes," she said. "It seemed as

if the teachers as well as the advisers were genuinely concerned with the students and their problems."

Claxton did have her complaints as well.

"The thing I disliked about Southern the most is easy—the parking," she said. "As a biology major, most of my classes required me to park in the gravel parking lot behind the library. It would get my car all dirty, and it was quite irritating."

Claxton's favorite instructor also happened to be her adviser, Dr. James Jackson, professor of biology.

"It may sound like a cliché, but he really makes learning fun," she said.

"What I really admire about Jennifer is her ability to work in all her classes," Jackson said. "She was able to motivate herself in classes she liked as well as classes she didn't much care for."

Claxton, who admits she has few regrets, would have done a few things differently along the way if

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: Jennifer Claxton

MAJOR: Biology

GPA: 3.89

given the opportunity.

"I probably would have gotten more involved," she said.

"I would have done intramurals and joined more clubs."

"Get involved" would also be her advice to new students.

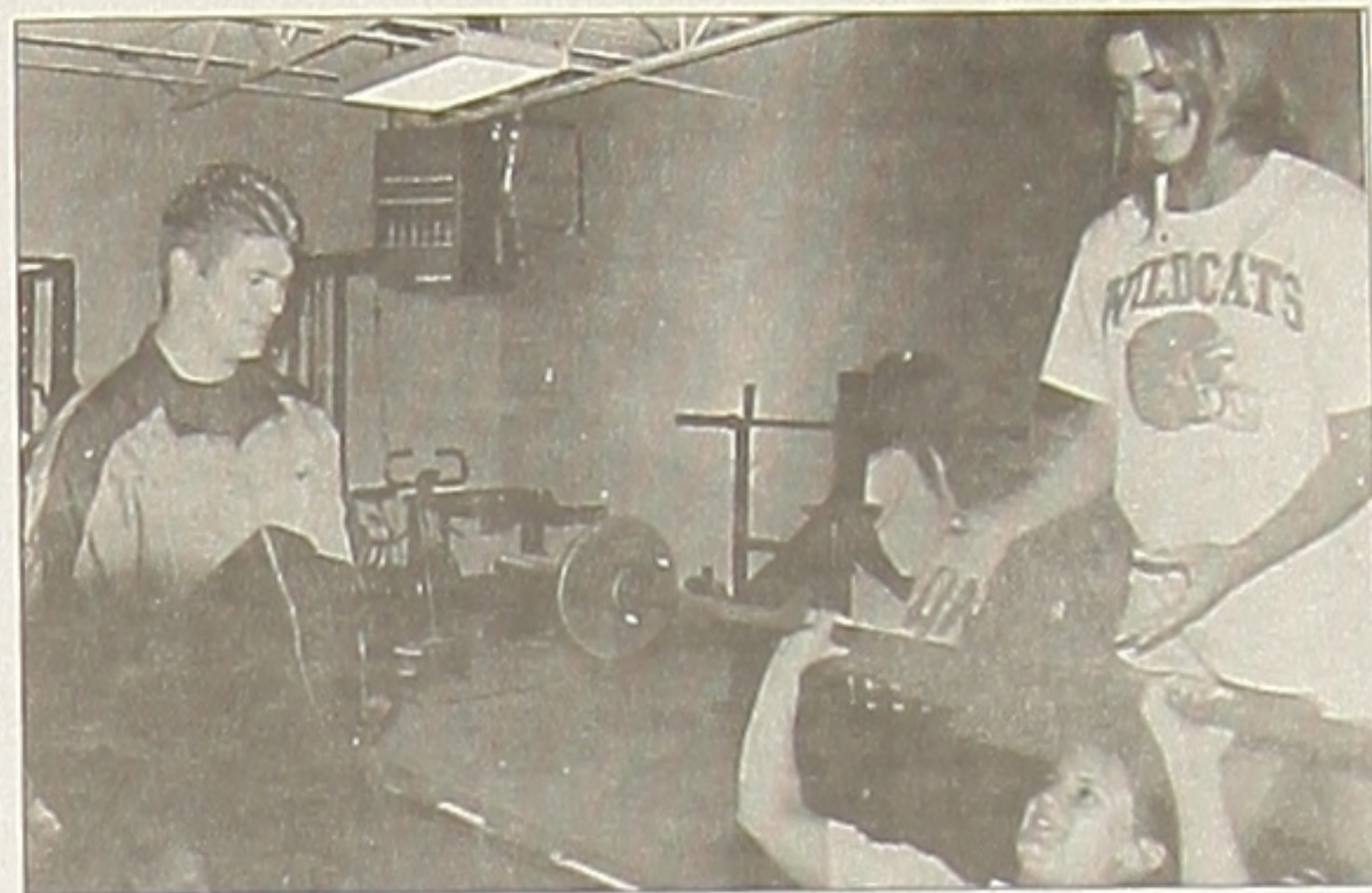
"Try a little bit of everything," she said. "That goes for school as well as life." □



BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

Jennifer Claxton, biology major, plans to enter the work field in marine biology, possibly in a zoo or a state park.

Love of sports, physical fitness leads Ward to degree



BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

Senior physical education major Dan Ward is completing his student teaching at Webb City High School. Aside from physical education, Ward also teaches weight training.

By CATHY WHEELER
CHART REPORTER

He steps up the plate, tees off, and throws a touchdown pass. That's just a small part of the diversity Dan Ward experiences as a physical education major.

"You never know what pitch life might throw you," Ward said. "You have to be

Ward will graduate this month with a 3.895 grade-point average. He credits much of his academic success to his extended college career.

He entered Missouri Southern as an honors student, and then took some time off to do a tour of duty with the Army. He was stationed in Alaska during Operation Desert Storm, where he met his wife. In 1993, Ward and his wife returned to civilian life. He enrolled at Southern to com-

plete his college education.

"My time in the Army really made me grow up," he said. "It gave me a different outlook on life. College is a lot more important, and the classes seem to be a lot easier once you have some real-life experience behind you."

Ward said his favorite classes and his favorite instructor go hand in hand. He said Dr. David McConnell's education classes stand out as his favorites.

"He is a student's teacher," Ward said. "He makes it fun. You learn what he wants you to learn."

"It's important to remember," he said. "That's what learning is all about. It's a lot more than just passing a test. Dr. McConnell teaches in such a way that you remember what you need to know."

McConnell, associate professor of education, is confident Ward will excel as a teacher.

"His personal relation skills will take him at least as far as his academic skills," McConnell said. "They (students) will be glad they've got the real McCoy; Dan will treat them with respect."

Ward is a member of the Physical Education Major (PEM) Club at Southern, and was intramural champion in golf and 3-on-3 basketball for two years. He was also student intramural director for basketball.

Ward is completing his student teaching requirements at Webb City High School. He teaches four physical education classes, two hours of weight training

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: Dan Ward

MAJOR: Physical Education

GPA: 3.895

and assists with the golf team.

Ward said he chose his major based on his love for sports and his belief in the importance of physical fitness, but he says the interaction with young people has been an added bonus for him.

"It's sort of inspiring to be able to make a difference in the lives of young people, to help them in the right direction," Ward said.

Although many students are in school because their parents expect them to enroll, Ward said it's important that students don't fall into the trap of trying to please someone else. He said a college career will be much more successful if students give it all they've got and realize the benefit they will gain from the experience.

"Don't just do it for someone else... do it for yourself," he said. □

Grad names attendance top priority



BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

Tabitha Davison, theatre major, has been involved in every part of Southern Theatre's productions. Attendance is a key to her success.

By JENNIFER RABOLD
CHART REPORTER

Making showing up for class a primary goal has finally paid off for Tabitha Davison, who has juggled a young marriage and school to graduate in the top 25 of her class.

Davison, a theatre major with a 3.92 grade-point average, said showing up for class has been a top priority for the five years she has been at Missouri Southern.

"Eighty percent of my success is showing up for class," she said. "The other 20 percent is due to sitting up front in class and having a nice rapport with teachers."

Dr. Jay Fields, head of the theatre department, is Davison's favorite instructor at Southern.

"With Tabitha it's always perfection on stage and in class," Fields said. "During the production of *Camelot*, she had to control 26 actors. She stayed on top of it and really ran the show."

According to Fields, Davison has many qualities that allow her to be a success.

"Tabitha knows what she wants and knows how to get it," he said. "She is a very in-charge person."

Davison is involved in many organizations on campus.

"We used to have a club called College Players in which I was the vice president," she said. She is also involved in Alpha Psi Omega, Alpha Chi, and Omicron Delta Kappa, a leadership society.

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: **Tabitha Davison**

MAJOR: **Theatre**

GPA: **3.92**

"I've been in almost all of the theatre productions at Southern," she said. "There are six a year, and it's a full-time job in itself just to be a part of the production."

Davison has been involved in every part of production, from costume design to acting. Davison has also been married for nearly three years. She says her husband, Michael, has been motivational in her college career and attendance.

"It's not just [me] skipping class; it would be both of us," Davison said.

After graduation Davison plans to take a year off. She then plans to attend graduate school so she can begin to teach directing at the college level.

Davison advises students never to miss class.

"As far as theatre people go, we tend to not let attendance slide," she said. "So if you're there, you will get the material needed." □

Dickens: 'It was worth it'

By CHRIS MILLER
CHART REPORTER

Most Missouri Southern students probably suffer from an involuntary cringe at the thought of a class called Differential Equations. But not April Dickens, secondary mathematics education major.

"That class was different," she said. "The instructor, Dr. Linda Noel (associate professor of mathematics), was great. She would walk around and help us."

Dickens, a 21-year-old senior, said the real secret to her success was just going to class and keeping on top of her homework. She has a 3.919 grade-point average.

"That's why physics is so hard," she said. "I loved that class, but I really had to work at it for hours to stay ahead of things."

Mary Elick, associate professor of mathematics, was her instructor for three classes.

"She was a good student," Elick said. "She was in my Abstract Algebra class, and she worked hard."

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: **April Dickens**

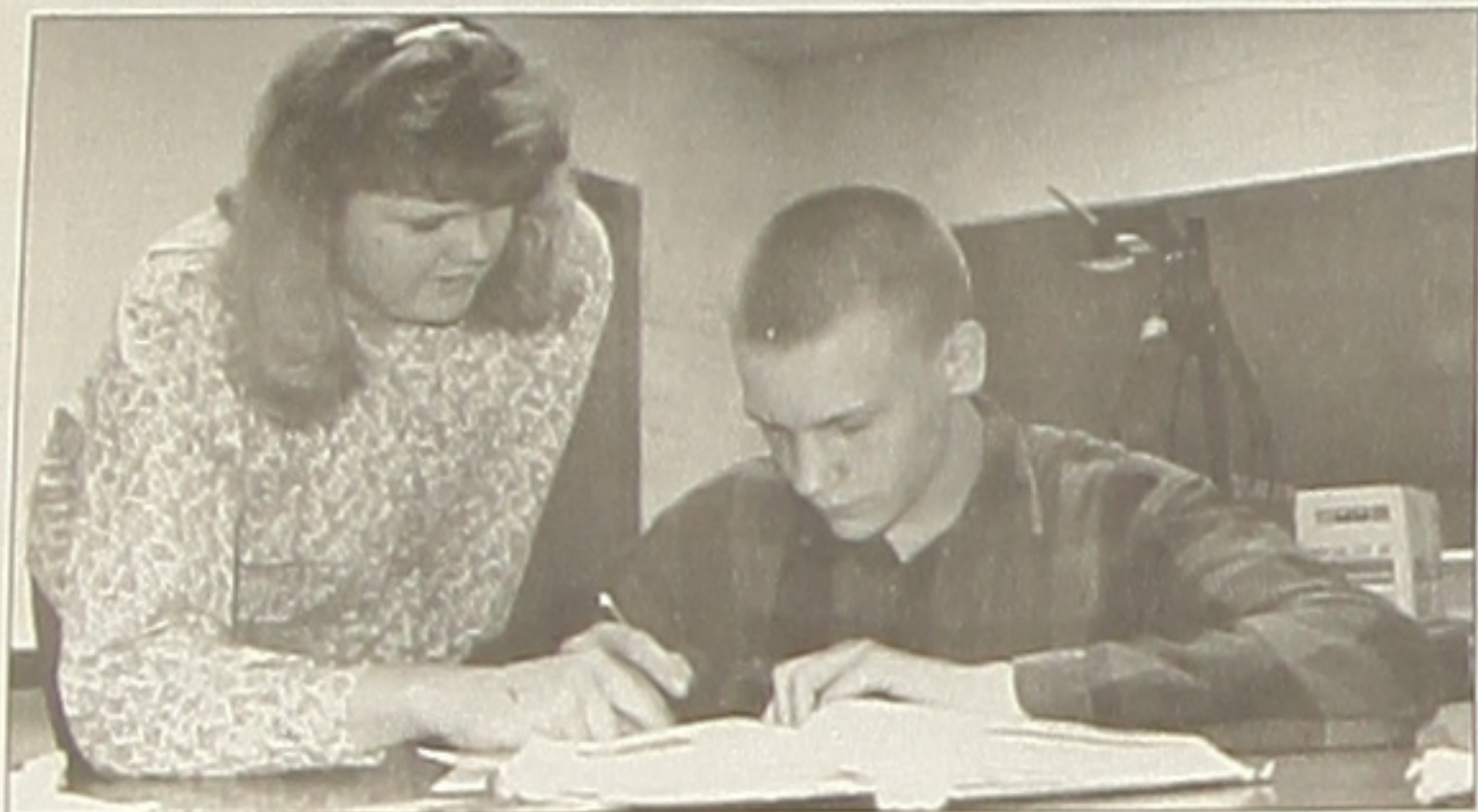
MAJOR: **Mathematics Education**

GPA: **3.919**

us hard, but that makes you learn it," she said. "I can look back now and say it was worth it."

Dickens now lives at home in Liberal, Mo., with her parents. She is the youngest of five, having three brothers and a sister.

Living that far from campus can make it difficult to participate in many activities, but Dickens has managed a few. She is vice president of Kappa Mu Epsilon, a national mathematics honor fraternity, and



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

April Dickens, mathematics education major, is completing student teaching at Bronaugh High School and plans to obtain a master's degree. William Rusk, 15, is one of her students.

she has tutored students. She is currently working as a substitute teacher.

"April has self-confidence with humility," Elick said. "That kind of attitude works well in a math course. She will work until she gets the job done, but she really downplays her accomplishments."

Dickens will attend the University of Missouri-Columbia after graduating from Southern. There she will pursue a master's

degree. After that, she said she would like to teach at the college level.

Dickens has one piece of advice for incoming students, in any field.

"Keep an open mind; don't listen to what other students tell you," she said. "You will hear some bad stuff about classes or about teachers or whatever, but don't take it. Go out and find out for yourself. Keep an open mind." □

Drive, maturity help Taylor succeed

Senior accounting major leaves engineering field to pursue new career

By ROBIN LOTZ
CHART REPORTER

For Jeff Taylor, receiving his bachelor's degree won't be a new experience. An accounting major, Taylor graduated from the University of Maryland in 1984 with a degree in electrical engineering.

He worked in Dallas for a while but realized at the age of 21 that the big city rat race was not for him.

"When I saw that Cardinal Scale was needing an engineer, I came here," Taylor said.

But after 10 years in the engineering field, he realized that what he really wanted to do was accounting, so he enrolled at Missouri Southern.

Taylor attributes his 4.0 grade-point average to maturity.

"The first time I went through school, I was your typical undergraduate student," he said. "But when I started back, I was 31 years old, and I started back for a reason. I therefore took it more seriously."

"He can see complex problems and find a solution," said Dr. Steve Roark, associate professor of business. "He is blessed with a great deal of intelligence, and he loves a challenge."

Taylor says he really doesn't have a favorite class, but he did enjoy all of his financial accounting classes. The classes he had the most difficulty with were Tax Accounting I and Tax Accounting II, because they were so different from any other he had taken.

"He has an unusually tremendous quantitative ability, which makes him different from other good students I've had," said Dr. Jim Shaver, professor of business.

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: *Jeffrey Taylor*

MAJOR: *Accounting*

GPA: *4.0*

Not only does Taylor go to school full-time, but he also works 35 to 40 hours per week in public accounting and is preparing for the CPA exam later this month.

He also manages a team in the Southwest Missouri Youth Baseball Association. He helped start the association, which has grown into the Oklahoma region.

It hasn't always been an easy road for Taylor—there have been some stumbling blocks along the way.

"It really knocked the wind out of my sails at the end of last year when I couldn't land the job I had wanted to land in this area," he said. "I thought I was going to be able to take my engineering experience and then my accounting, and with a CPA go to work around this area."

"But it turns out that I'm not able to do that," Taylor said. "I can work here as a CPA and not take advantage of my engineering background, or [I can] move to a bigger city."

Taylor says he wondered at times if he had made a big mistake, but he was too far along to change and thought he would ride it out, hoping that one day it would pay off.

Taylor's advice to other students is, "Do something you really want to do and don't worry about the money. Instead, just work hard to be good at it." □



BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

Jeff Taylor, senior accounting major, worked as an electrical engineer for ten years before deciding to go back to school. Taylor plans to work for a local CPA firm.

Houk's upcoming graduation 'a dream come true'

By GINA PETERSON
CHART REPORTER

It was a little scary at first, but Renee George Houk realized getting her degree wasn't going to be all that difficult.

"Graduating is a dream come true," said Houk, an elementary education major with a 3.94 grade-point average.

At age 31, Houk decided to get a teaching degree because it was something she always wanted to do.

"For older students, it takes so much courage to take the initial step to go to college," she said.

Houk attended Crowder College for two years before transferring to Missouri Southern.

reasons, and even though it is a smaller college, it still has the availability of opportunity compared to a larger college. Also, the College is more personal, she said.

"You're not just a number," Houk said.

Parking on campus was "a shocker" at first, but she learned to get there early enough to get a good spot.

Houk, a native of Springdale, Ark., moved to southwest Missouri in 1981. She was married in December after meeting her husband at line-dancing classes in Joplin.

Now, Houk lives in Neosho where her husband, Dennis, owns and operates a screen printing business. The couple takes care of an 11-year-old girl, Audra, and a 5-year-old boy, Harrison.

When asked what the secret to her studying habits were, Houk said, "You have to totally tune everything out."

concentrate on one thing at time."

Houk, who isn't taking any classes this semester, said her favorite class was English Literature, and her favorite instructor was Dr. Henry Morgan, professor of English.

"He seemed genuinely concerned about his students," Houk said.

Morgan said Houk was never a problem in class.

"She was an excellent student and always showed up for class," he said.

Houk said her toughest class was History of the English Language because it depended heavily on memorization and had no real application.

Her future plans include adjusting to her new life and obtaining a job in her field of study around the area. Currently,

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: *Renee Houk*

MAJOR: *Elementary Education*

GPA: *3.94*

and high school in Neosho. Her advice to college students is, "If you truly know what you want, don't let

“Jesus Christ is the one I pattern my life after.”

Thomas uses God-given talent

By TRAVIS STRONG
CHART REPORTER

Imagine working a part-time job and managing to obtain a 4.0 grade-point average during your college career. This is the story of senior Lissa Thomas.

“I have a philosophy, and that’s to do my best at everything and give the glory to God because he has given me the talent,” Thomas said. “I try to do everything in my life to the best of my ability.”

Thomas said students should take advantage of the chance they have to learn and work hard to obtain an education.

“Take this seriously,” she said. “I think it is very important to put everything you have into your education.”

Thomas said her favorite class was Organizational Communication.

“I enjoy my organizational classes,” she said. “I have had one organizational class, and now I am in Advanced Organizational Communication. They deal with human relations and resources.”

The Organizational Communication instructor, Dr. Jay Moorman, said he enjoyed having Thomas as a student.

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: *Lissa Thomas*

MAJOR: *Speech Communication*

GPA: *4.0*

“Lissa is an excellent student,” she said. “She is witty and insightful. She is able to take things in the classroom and apply them to the workplace and home life.”

Thomas said she really liked her biology class. She said Dr. Jim Jackson, professor of biology, was her favorite instructor. Jackson described her as an enthusiastic student.

“There are three things that explain Lissa as a student,” he said. “One, she has a high

degree of motivation. Two, a love of botany and natural history. Three, she has strong analytical talents.”

Thomas said she is not hunting a job at this time, but would like to find employment in human relations eventually. Until then she will continue to work at her current place of employment, U.S. Telecom.

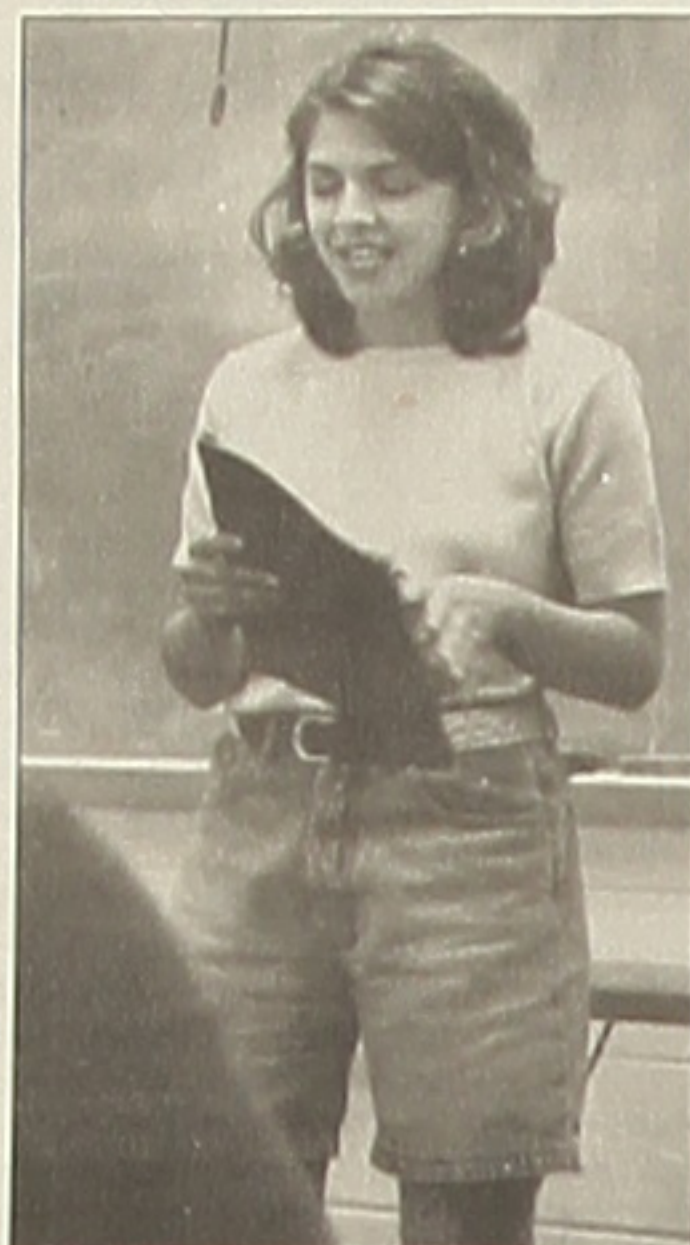
“I will probably continue to work there,” she said. “That is why I am not job searching. I’ll probably just stay there and go full-time. I am the connection coordinator.”

Thomas said the most important thing to her is starting a family with her husband, Scott.

“Ever since I was a child, the most important thing to me was being a wife and mother,” she said. “That is the most important position I can fill in this world. I’m married; the next step is to be a mother.”

Thomas said her all-time hero would be Jesus Christ. She said He is a very important part of her life.

“Jesus Christ is the one I pattern my life after,” she said. “He would be my ultimate hero.” □



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Lissa Thomas, communications major, plans to raise a family and eventually find a job in the human relations field.

Schoen searches for, finds perfection without limitations

By ELIZABETH LOVLAND
CAMPUS EDITOR

After attending Missouri Southern for four years, Stacy Schoen has become a student of all trades.

Schoen, who is graduating in May with a bachelor of fine arts degree in graphic design, has held numerous leadership positions ranging from student regent to College Orientation leader.

The list also includes Student Senate president; national dean's list; vice president of Omicron Delta Kappa; editor of the *Winged Lion*; president and vice president of the student chapter of the American Advertising Federation; and design editor of the *Crossroads* yearbook in 1993.

Schoen also studied a summer in a Sweden art program and participated in the Oxford University summer program.

Even with all of her many activities, Schoen has kept a 3.974 grade-point average. She attributes most of her success to her parents.

“My mom and dad always told me, ‘You can do anything in this world that you want to,’” Schoen said. “They never set limitations on me.”

Schoen has always been a perfectionist.

“Mom would say, ‘Stacy, you have to snap out of this; you can’t do everything as perfect as you want to,’” Schoen said. “I realize that you’re never going to be the best at something; you’re probably not the worst at it either. You just have to do what you can.”

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: *Stacy Schoen*

MAJOR: *Graphic Arts*

GPA: *3.974*



BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

Stacy Schoen, graphic arts major, frames one of her art projects in preparation for her senior exhibit. Schoen was the College's Outstanding Graduate for 1996.

David Noblett, associate professor of art, said he will miss Schoen in his classes.

“I feel that she is a great promoter for herself, the arts, and for us,” Noblett said. “She isn’t afraid to take a chance and is a very hard worker.”

“She’s an excellent student in that she finishes her projects on time. She doesn’t just do it. If she’s not happy with a project that she’s doing, then she’ll redo it, even though she doesn’t have the time, just to make it better. There are few students who do that.”

Schoen said she has had a positive experience at Southern.

“I don’t think I would have had these experiences at a larger school,” she said. “Everything I have done has taught me something else. Every experience has built me up to be more confident.” □

Morrison finds life in science



BRETT DAWSON/The Chart

Melissa Morrison, biology major, plays with her 8-month-old son, Lyndon. Morrison has wanted to study science since the fifth grade and has chosen virology research.

By KIKI COFFMAN
STAFF WRITER

She has short dark hair, wears a white Ministry T-shirt, and is looking through a microscope in the laboratory. Her concentration is completely involved with science.

She never wanted to do anything else.

Melissa Morrison, 22, decided she wanted to study science in the fifth grade. She will graduate with a degree in biology.

"I was a sophomore when I decided on biology, and I was a senior when I decided to narrow it down to virology research," she said.

"I plan on going on to graduate school and then into research. That's what I'm interested in. When I was interning in Oklahoma City, I worked with polio. It was a good experience."

Science appears to be Morrison's destiny, incorporating itself into her family as well as her career goals.

"I met my husband at an environmental fair," she said.

"He was working with the solar-powered cars. My younger brother kept asking him

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: **Melissa Morrison**

MAJOR: **Biology**

GPA: **3.933**

questions, and he would answer them looking directly at me. It made my younger brother angry, and he walked off.

"Later I was sitting at the Missouri Southern booth, and his younger brother came up with his business card. He got my phone number, and I think he called me first.

"I never thought a long-distance relationship would work," Morrison added. "I got married two years ago and had a baby eight months ago."

But with a growing family and treasury of memories, Morrison has accomplished much from her years at Southern. □

Clinkenbeard has always felt motivation to do well

By TRENTON TUBBS
CHART REPORTER

Senior nursing major Doreen Clinkenbeard attributes her outstanding college career to being a "Type A" personality.

Clinkenbeard will graduate with a 3.914 grade-point average in May. Her next goal is to enter the University of Missouri-Kansas City graduate and nurse practitioner program brought to Southern by satellite. She wants to start in the fall of 1997 and earn her master's degree.

"When I set a goal," she said, "I hate not to complete it."

Earning a college degree has been one of Clinkenbeard's goals for a long time. But it hasn't been easy.

Being a non-traditional student with a family has made juggling school, work, and family responsibilities a challenge. Clinkenbeard's husband, Rod, and her daughter, Amber, have been supportive at home.

Amber, who is in high school, has been another motivation for Clinkenbeard's success in college.

"I want her to go [to college], so I've been trying to make her see how important it is to me," she said, "and it's working. Her attitude toward college is that she's definitely wanting to go, and she's looking at a lot higher things than I did when I was her

Top 25 Seniors

NAME: **Doreen Clinkenbeard**

MAJOR: **Nursing**

GPA: **3.914**

Clinkenbeard has worked for the former Oak Hill Hospital and Freeman Hospital in Joplin full-time for the past two years.

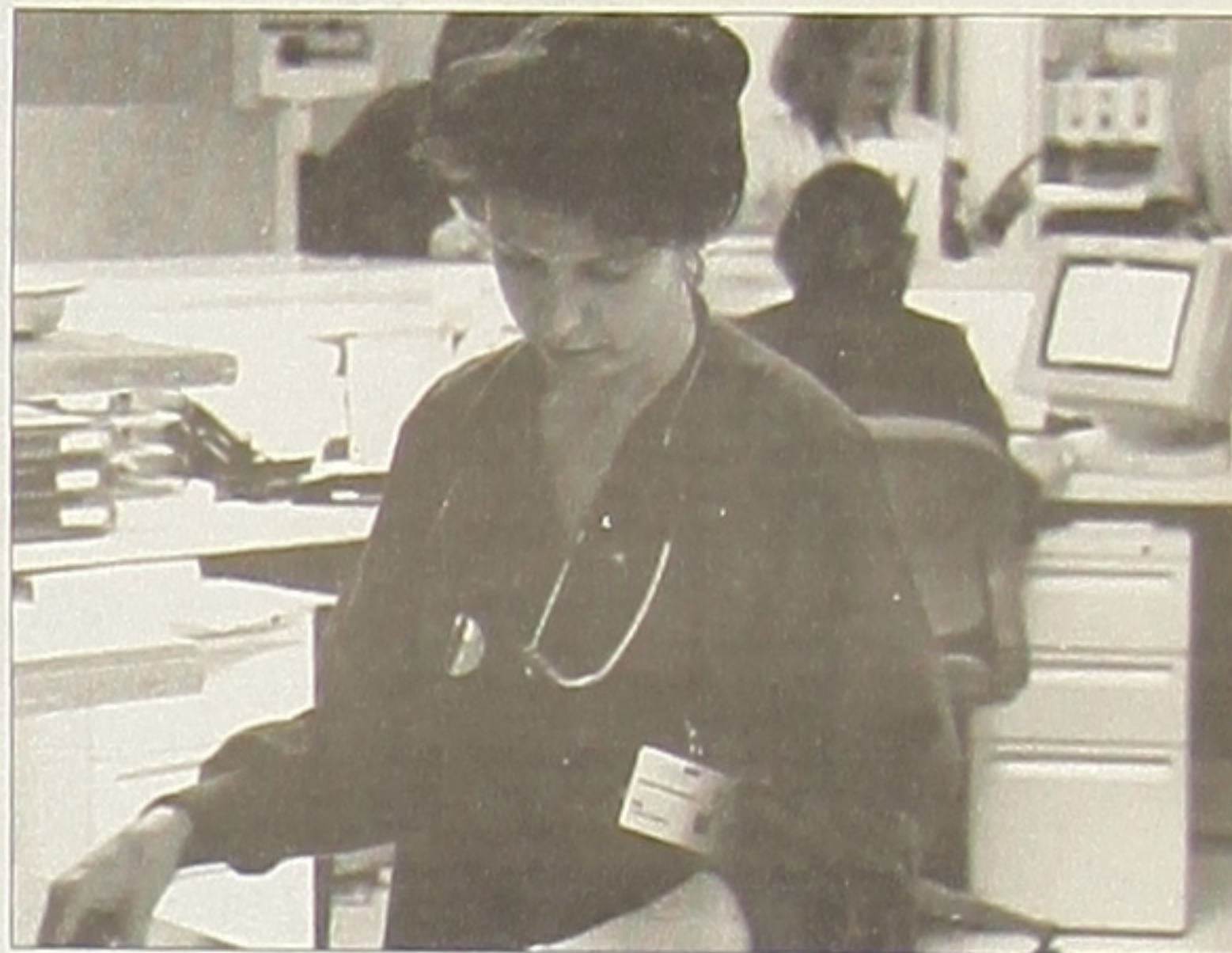
Currently she is a staff R.N. at Freeman Hospital and a part-time R.N. at McCune-Brooks Hospital in Carthage. She works in the emergency room in both hospitals, which is the placement she wanted, she said.

With the completion of her master's degree in nursing, she would like to enter family practice as a nurse practitioner.

But for now, she would like to relax.

"I want to spend time with my daughter," Clinkenbeard said.

She also wants to take classes next fall and spring she hasn't been able to take.



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Doreen Clinkenbeard, one of three nursing majors in the top 25, works as a staff R.N. at Freeman Hospital in Joplin and a part-time R.N. at McCune Brooks Hospital in Carthage.

expand her horizons, she said she would like to study Spanish, music, and chemistry.

"What I'd like to do is enjoy a few classes," she said.

Although she said she had never found a class she hated, the pressure to do well was always great.

"When you have to take it," she said, "and you have to maintain a certain GPA... you can't really relax and learn like you want."

department, said Clinkenbeard has been a wonderful student to have in class.

"She's always been challenged and excited about getting into the academic part of nursing," Box said. "She is very highly regarded for her nursing ability with patients coming into the E.R.," Box said. "She's a genuine professional."

Clinkenbeard is one of three nursing majors among Southern's top 25 graduating seniors this year.

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